



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Government
Publications

CA1
IA 180
-Y76

3 1761 11765590 2

YUKON REGION FIRST NATION PROFILES



Canada

Photo on front cover:

Wolf Button Blanket, 1991, Buttons on stroud, by Allen Edzerza and Eileen A. Sembsmoen, Yukon Permanent Art Collection, courtesy The Friends of the Gallery.

Photo on back cover:

Crow Button Blanket, 1991, Buttons on stroud, by Allen Edzerza and Eileen A. Sembsmoen, Yukon Permanent Art Collection, courtesy The Friends of the Gallery.


YUKON REGION FIRST NATION PROFILES



Published under the authority of the
Hon. Jane Stewart, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development
Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, 1997

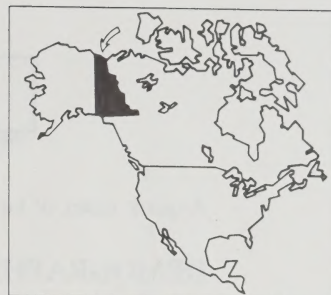
© Minister of Public Works
and Government Services Canada
Catalogue No. R32-166\1997E
ISBN 0-662-25113-X

Department of Indian and Northern Affairs
December 1997
Cette publication est aussi disponible en français

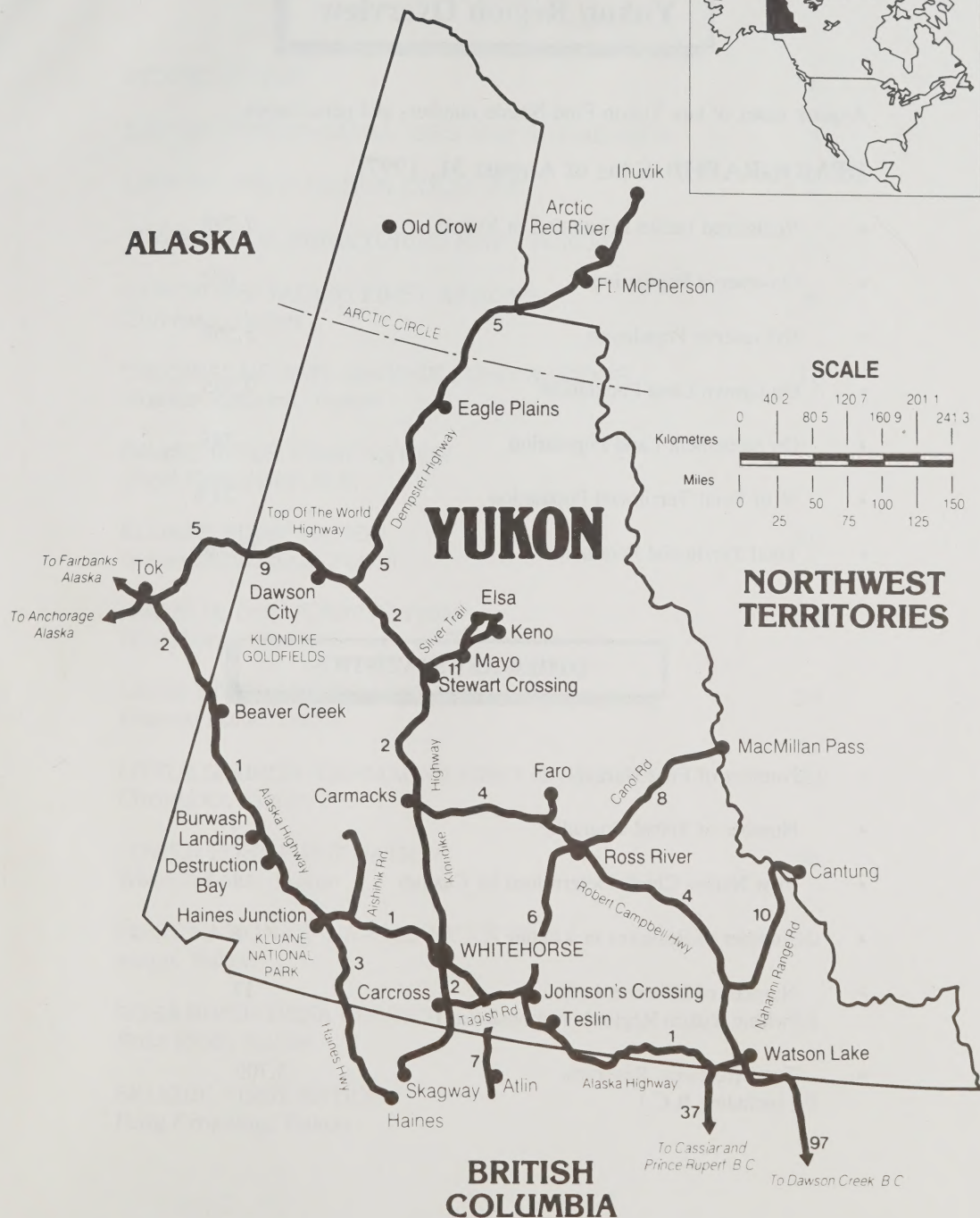


Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761117655902>



ALASKA



Yukon Region Overview

A quick index of key Yukon First Nation numbers and percentages.

DEMOGRAPHICS (as of August 31, 1997)

• Registered Indian Population in Yukon	7,298
• On-reserve Population	672
• Off-reserve Population	3,562
• On Crown Land Population	2,355
• On Settlement Land Population	745
• % of Total Territorial Population	21%
• Total Territorial Population	33,586

OTHER KEY STATISTICS

• Number of First Nations	16
• Number of Tribal Councils	4
• First Nation Chiefs Determined by Custom	15
• Number of Reserves in Yukon	8
• Number of Reserves in B.C. (within Yukon Region's responsibility)	17
• Total Hectares: Reserves (including B.C.)	3,709

Contents

INTRODUCTION	1
LIST OF CHIEFS/MANAGERS AND ADDRESSES	2
LIST OF FIRST NATION COUNCILS	4
TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES MAP - YUKON	5
CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATIONS <i>Carcross, Yukon</i>	6
CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS <i>Haines Junction, Yukon</i>	10
DEASE RIVER FIRST NATION <i>Good Hope Lake, B.C.</i>	16
KLUANE FIRST NATION <i>Burwash Landing, Yukon</i>	20
KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION <i>Whitehorse, Yukon</i>	24
LIARD RIVER FIRST NATION <i>Watson Lake, Yukon</i>	28
LITTLE SALMON/CARMACKS FIRST NATION <i>Carmacks, Yukon</i>	32
LOWER POST FIRST NATION <i>Watson Lake, Yukon</i>	36
FIRST NATION OF NA-CHO NY'A'K DUN <i>Mayo, Yukon</i>	40
ROSS RIVER DENA COUNCIL <i>Ross River, Yukon</i>	44
SELKIRK FIRST NATION <i>Pelly Crossing, Yukon</i>	48

TA'AN KWACH'AN COUNCIL <i>Whitehorse, Yukon</i>	52
TAKU RIVER TLINGIT FIRST NATION <i>Atlin, B.C.</i>	53
TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL <i>Teslin, Yukon</i>	57
TR'ON DEK HWECH'IN <i>Dawson City, Yukon</i>	61
VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION <i>Old Crow, Yukon</i>	66
WHITE RIVER FIRST NATION <i>Beaver Creek, Yukon</i>	70
APPENDIX	75

INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth publication of *Yukon Region First Nation Profiles*. A source of historical and background information about First Nations and communities in the region, it also outlines the role of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) in each of the communities. The purpose of the Profiles is to provide a reference source to assist First Nations, government agencies and personnel, the media and interested members of the public.

In recent years, several First Nations have become self-governing, having reached agreements with the Government of Canada and the Yukon Territorial Government with respect to land claim entitlements and aboriginal rights. The Appendix of the Profiles provides more detailed information regarding Land Claim and Self Government Agreements that have been signed to date.

Information provided in *Yukon Region First Nation Profiles* has been obtained in consultation with the First Nations, and it is subject to change; therefore addendums may be provided. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development would appreciate feedback on how to improve *Yukon Region First Nation Profiles*; therefore your comments are welcome. It is anticipated that this publication will eventually be available on internet, because it has been requested by countries all over the world.

The department hopes that the Profiles prove useful and informative, considering that this area holds overwhelming interest on both the national and international stage.

Contact:

Communication Services
Department of Indian and Northern Affairs
Rm. 405 - 300 Main Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2B5
Phone: (867) 667-3312 or 667-3152
Fax: (867) 667-4319

YUKON REGION

FIRST NATION CHIEFS AND MANAGERS

<i>FIRST NATION FAX)</i>	<i>CHIEF</i>	<i>MANAGER</i>	<i>NUMBERS(PH.& FAX)</i>
Carcross/Tagish	William (Andy) Carville Box 130 Carcross, Y.T. Y0B 1B0	Dietmar Tramm Exec.Director	821-4251 821-4802 FAX #
Champagne/Aishihik	Paul Birckel Box 5309 Haines Junction, Y.T. Y0B 1L0	Lena Smith-Tutin	634-2288 634-2108 FAX #
Dease River	Carol Ann Johnny General Delivery Good Hope Lake, B.C. V0C 2Z0	Jim Stocco	(604) 239-3000 239-3003 FAX #
Kluane	Robert Johnson Box 20. Burwash Landing, Y.T. Y0B 1H0	Louise Gordon (First Nation Administrator)	841-4274 841-5900 FAX #
Kwanlin Dun	Joe Jack Box 1217 Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5A5	Bobby Smith	633-7800 668-5057 FAX #
Liard River	Ann Bayne Box 328 Watson Lake, Y.T. Y0A 1C0 Dixon Lutz Hereditary Chief	Rachelle Lewis	536-2131 536-2332 FAX #
Lower Post First Nation	Debbie Groat Deputy Chief Box 489 Watson Lake, Y.T. Y0A 1C0 Dixon Lutz, Hereditary Chief	Roma J. Tibbett	(604) 779-3161 779-3371 FAX #
Little Salmon/ Carmacks	Eddie Skookum Box 135 Carmacks, Yukon Y0B 1C0	Velma Albert	863-5576 863-5710 FAX #
Na-Cho Ny'a'k Dun	Billy Germaine Box 220 Mayo, Yukon Y0B 1M0	Roberta Hager (Director of Operations)	996-2265 996-2107 FAX #

**First Nation
Chief & Managers (cont.)**

<i>FIRST NATION</i>	<i>CHIEF</i>	<i>MANAGER</i>	<i>NUMBERS(PH.&FAX)</i>
Ross River Dena Council	Jim Smith General Delivery Ross River, Yukon Y0B 1S0	Dorothy Smith Admin. Director	969-2277 /78 /79 969-2405 FAX #
Selkirk	Patrick VanBibber P.O. Box 40 Pelly Crossing, Y.T. Y0B 1P0	Audrey Baker	537-3331 537-3902 FAX #
Ta'an Kwach'an Council	Glenn Grady Box 32081 Whitehorse, Y.T. Y1A 5P9	Rose Irvine Office Manager	668-3613 667-4295 FAX #
Taku River Tlingits	Melvin Jack Spokesperson Box 132 Atlin, B.C. V0W 1A0	John Ward Clan Director	(604) 651-7615 651-7714 FAX #
Teslin Tlingit Council	Richard Sidney Chief Executive Box 133 Teslin, Yukon Y0A 1B0	Doug Hogan Jr. Executive Assistant	390-2532 390-2204 FAX #
Tr'on dek Hwech'in	Steve Taylor Box 599 Dawson City, Y.T. Y0B 1G0	Shirley Pierson	993-5385 993-6553 FAX #
Vuntut Gwitchin Tribal Council	Marvin Frost (A/Chief) Box 94 Old Crow, Yukon Y0B 1N0	Howard Linklater	966-3213 966-3800 FAX #
White River	Margaret Nieman Glazier General Delivery Beaver Creek, Yukon Y0B 1A0		862-7802 862-7806 FAX #

FIRST NATION COUNCILS

**Council of Yukon
First Nations**

11 Nisutlin Drive
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 3S4

Shirley Adamson
Grand Chief

667-7631
668-6577 FAX #

TRIBAL COUNCILS:

Kaska Tribal Council

Hammond Dick
Tribal Chief
P.O. Box 530
Watson Lake, Y.T.
Y0A 1C0

George Miller
General Manager

536-2805
536-2806 FAX #

**Northern Tutchone
Council**

Chiefs E Skookum
R.Hager, P.VanBibber
General Delivery
Pelly Crossing, Yukon
Y0B 1P0

Lois Joe
Coordinator

537-3821
537-3902 FAX #

**Southern Tutchone Tribal
Council**

Box 2076
Haines Junction, Yukon
Y0B 1L0

Chief Glenn Grady,
Chief Paul Birckel
Chief Bob Johnson

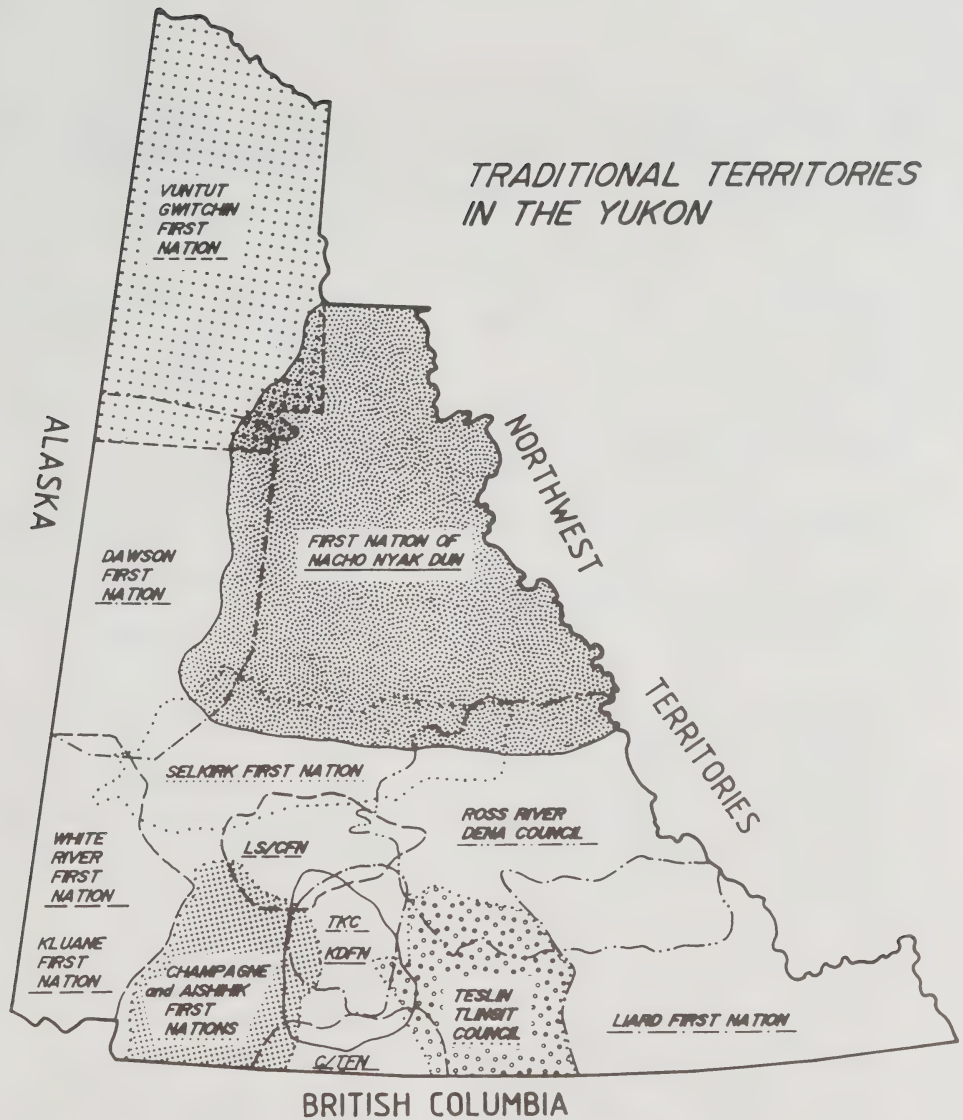
634-2513
634-2612 FAX #

**Da Kaa Council
(Tlingit Tribal Council)**

c/o Taku River Tlingits
First Nation
P.O. Box 132
Atlin, B.C.
V0W 1A0

Chief Exec. Richard Sidney
Spokesperson Melvin Jack

(604) 651-7792
651-7714 FAX #



KEY TO MAP NAMES:

- C/TFN - Carcross/Tagish First Nations
- KDFN - Kwanlin Dun First Nation
- LS/CFN - Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation
- TKC - Ta'an Kwach'an Council

CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATIONS

Carcross, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 130
Carcross, Yukon
Y0B 1B0
Phone No.: (867) 821-4251
Fax No.: (867) 821-4802

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Tlingit and Tagish

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Tlingit Tribal Council

GENERAL

The Carcross area was originally inhabited by the Tagish people, who camped at the site of the present village to hunt caribou. As they began trading and inter-marrying with the coastal Tlingit people, they adopted the Tlingit way of life. Today, the First Nation is represented by both its Tagish and Tlingit heritage and attempts are being made to maintain both language and cultural traditions.

Carcross developed as a stop-over place for gold-rush stampeder at the turn of the century. It is located at the end of Bennett Lake, where the White Pass and Yukon Railway established a station to pick up miners and equipment before travelling to Whitehorse or Skagway.

A residential school was established in 1901 by a missionary, Bishop Bompas. The last

school, **Choutla Residential School**, was built in 1956 by the Canadian government after a 1939 fire destroyed the church school. Although government-financed after that time, the Anglican Church continued their operation of the school, and it was attended by aboriginal students from all over the Yukon. The school closed in the 1960's, but continued to be in use until October 1993, when it was demolished by the First Nations through a contract with DIAND in order to restore the land to its original state.

When the **White Pass and Yukon Route** railroad was discontinued in 1982, the South Klondike Highway became the lifeline of the community. It is possible that the railway, one of the few narrow-gauges in the world, will once more extend to Carcross. At present, the railroad originates in Skagway, Alaska and ends in Bennett Lake, B.C.

The population of Carcross as of June 1997 was 431. The community of Carcross is directly administered by the Yukon Government.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and four Councillors.

QUORUM

Any three members of Council.

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. Franchise is extended to First Nation members over 16 years of age. The last election was held on April 30, 1996. The term for Chief and Council is 4 years.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The membership code is under First Nation control. Inquiries regarding membership should therefore be directed to the First Nations' office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

Negotiations of the Final and Self Government Agreements pursuant to the Umbrella Final Agreement have commenced.

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Ross River/Southern Lakes Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Dave Keenan, NDP

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. distributes power from the Whitehorse Dam.

MAIN RESUPPLY: The all-weather South Klondike Highway (Skagway Road) provides access to Carcross.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fully equipped, with a chief and 10 volunteers. Water is supplied by reservoirs and wells.

POLICE: Tel: 821-5555 RCMP detachment: one corporal, two constables (including a designated First Nations position), and a part-time Detachment clerk. Transport: various.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week

BANKS: Banking is done in Whitehorse

PUBLIC FACILITIES: One 24-room hotel, service stations, restaurants, and a general store are open year round.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

2 Administration Buildings
Administration Annex
Daycare Centre
2 Cultural Centres
Community Hall
1 Garage
86 Houses

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 64.75 Ha. on the south shore of Nares Lake
LAND SET ASIDE: 250.955 Ha. in and around Carcross and Tagish
PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: 1 parcel and 50 lots

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 -- Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	64
On Reserve	127
Off Reserve	<u>292</u>
Total	483

241 First Nations members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The First Nations' office employs members and non-aboriginals in both First Nations-run or private businesses. Most non-First Nation employment is seasonal.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Service

Social Development

The First Nations receive and administer funds for social assistance. They have administered their social assistance program for the past decade. The program includes In-home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel, and Basic and Special Needs. First Nations' members living in Whitehorse are funded directly through the Whitehorse office of Indian and Inuit Affairs.

Education

First Nation members attend the **Carcross School** from kindergarten to grade nine and high school in Whitehorse.

The Department funds the Carcross/Tagish First Nations directly for the services of a Community Education Liaison Co-ordinator and for other related costs and services. First Nation members with registered status may apply for post-secondary educational support from the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of Yukon First

Nations' Building on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

Economic Development

The Carcross/Tagish First Nations receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). Programs are administered to provide for economic development enterprises, as well as subsistence, elders' needs, and traditional and cultural activities. Funding is also obtained from other federal or territorial government agencies.

The Carcross-Tagish Development Corporation announced in March 1997 plans to develop a dozen business projects. The corporation hired Mohawk businessman Steve Williams to raise the millions of dollars required to develop the projects, which apparently include a casino and a golf course. The status of these projects is not known at this time.

Capital

The Carcross/Tagish First Nations provide housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Contracts for construction of houses are usually let to the citizens of the First Nations. In the winter of 1992-93, a contract awarded to a First Nations' member resulted in the building of 15 housing units.

Capital funding is provided through the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs and CMHC. The funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as

financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

Indian and Inuit Affairs' funding is provided to the First Nations' Council to provide a central administrative base.

Community Infrastructure

The Carcross/Tagish First Nations receive funding from Indian and Inuit Affairs for the maintenance of roads and community buildings, as well as for municipal and fire protection services.

In 1992, a sewage eduction truck valued at about \$100,000 was acquired by the First Nations under Canada's Green Plan. The sanitation system also includes out-houses, holding tanks (pumped out regularly) and a septic system for houses in the town. Garbage disposal is done by a contractor.

CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATION



Box 130
Carcross, Yukon Y0B 1B0
Phone (403) 821-4251 / Fax (403) 821-4802



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

Haines Junction, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 5309

Haines Junction, Yukon

Y0B 1L0

Phone No.: (867) 634-2288

Fax No.: (867) 634-2108

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Southern Tutchone of Athapaskan descent, Tlingit

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Southern Tutchone Tribal Council

GENERAL

Haines Junction is the first major community northwest of Whitehorse on the Alaska Highway. It is Parks Canada's administrative headquarters for Kluane National Park, a World Heritage Site.

In the past, Haines Junction was used by native people as a temporary staging area on trapping, hunting and fishing trips. The Southern Tutchone name for the area is **Dakwakada**, meaning "a high cache," which was erected near the present weigh scale station to store food and furs while hunting and fishing in the area.

The area was a trade route for the Tlingit and Chilkat Indians of Haines, Alaska who traded with the interior Indians from Dalton Post to Ft. Selkirk. The Southern Tutchone acted as intermediaries in trade between coastal and interior Indians. Many of these

trails were used as guides for the Haines and Alaska Highways. Pioneer Jack Dalton also used the trade route which later became known as the **Dalton Trail** for his famous cattle drive to Dawson City.

After the building of the Alaska and Haines Highways, a maintenance camp was built at their junction. A small school was included in the camp for the children of highway workers. The commercial potential of the area was recognized by John and Sally Backe who built the first cafe and motel in the area. Haines Junction now has several tourist accommodations and services.

As of June 1997, the population of Haines Junction was 862. It was predominantly a non-aboriginal community until The Department of Indian Affairs built houses for the members of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations just east of the town. Most of the homes for Champagne and Aishihik First Nations' members were built at Haines Junction and Champagne until a community development plan included Canyon Creek as another centre for building homes. Some residents now commute from Canyon Creek to Haines Junction for work and business. Other settlements or camps within the area include: Nesketahen, Klukshu, Champagne, Hutchi Lake, Aishihik Lake, Kusawa Lake, Kluane Lake and Kloo Lake. The First Nations constructed housing units near the Takhini River on the Alaska Highway in 1993-94, to establish its newest subdivision.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

For First Nations' administration purposes, the two First Nations of Champagne and Aishihik joined in 1970 and a single Chief was elected.

The First Nations' leadership is composed of a Chief and six Councillors.

QUORUM

Chief and three Councillors

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election, extending franchise to First Nations members 16 years and older. The Chief and Council are elected to a four-year term. The last election was held in November of 1994. One First Nations Council member is elected to represent the communities of Haines Junction, Champagne, Aishihik/Canyon, Klukshu, Kloo Lake and Whitehorse. One elder and one youth representative sit on Council.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The membership code is under First Nation control and governed by the First Nation constitution. Inquiries regarding membership should therefore be directed to the First Nations' offices.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Champagne and Aishihik First Nations were the first to ratify their Band Final, Land Claims and Self-Government Agreements. The Final Land Claim and Self-Government Agreements* were officially signed in Whitehorse by Paul Birckel, Chief of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Tom Siddon, then Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development,

and John Ostashek, Yukon Government Leader on May 29, 1993.

Legislation was passed by the House of Commons on June 22, 1994 and approved by the Senate in July. It became effective on February 14, 1995.

(* See **Appendix** for Highlights of the First Nations' Agreements)

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Kluane Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Gary McRobb, NDP

TRAINING/EDUCATION

The First Nations are directing their attention to obtaining programs to assist members in meeting the administrative demands resulting from the land claim settlements.

EMPLOYMENT

Long-term employment for members living in Whitehorse will be one of the main objectives of the First Nation in the coming years.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The First Nations are increasing their efforts to meet the need for programs for the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse and suicide prevention; a wilderness treatment centre has been developed at Aishihik Lake. The First Nations are researching the establishment of a family violence prevention program.

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

The First Nations are developing management training programs to enhance the skills of its staff at the First Nations

office, and to meet the need for land claims administrative personnel.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The Yukon Energy Corporation operates the dam at Aishihik Lake and there is a diesel generator for back-up.

MAIN RESUPPLY: All weather road, Alaska and Haines Highways.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The fire department which is located at Haines Junction, has a joint agreement with the Village of Haines Junction to supply fire and ambulance services to the residents. First Aid and CPR are taught to fire fighters.

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations have fire halls and equipment at Canyon Creek and Champagne.

POLICE: RCMP detachment in Haines Junction (Tel. 634-5555) with one corporal, two constables (including a designated First Nations position), and a part-time Detachment clerk. Transport: various.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week.

BANK: An agent operates a Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Monday to Friday, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Haines Junction.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: The First Nations have a laundromat and showers servicing their members and the public.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building
Carpentry Shop
Garage
Warehouse
Central Heating Plant
Community Building - NNADAP
Youth Centre
Community Hall - Champagne
Fire Halls - Canyon Creek and Champagne
104 Houses
Aishihik Treatment Centre
Heritage Building
Municipal Building - Takhini

FIRST NATION LAND* ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: None.

LAND SET ASIDE: None - Land Claims settlement* - transferred.

PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: None
* (See Highlights of Final Agreement in Appendix)

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown land	38
On Reserve	12
Off Reserve	322
Settlement Land	<u>306</u>
Total	678

253 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The First Nations employ many of their members through its First Nation and sub-contract arrangements with its First Nation contractors. It is concerned about the lack of

employment and service access for its members in Whitehorse.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION under the Programs and Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA) negotiated in Self Government Agreements

- * Education
- * Capital
- * Social Development
- * Community Infrastructure and Service
- * Economic Development
- * First Nation Government

Education

Students can attend grades K-12 at the **St. Elias Community School**. The northern Alaska Highway communities also send high school students to Haines Junction for grades 10-12. Some students attend high school in Whitehorse.

Under their Programs and Services Transfer Agreement, the First Nations are funded for a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) position and other related costs and services. First Nations' members may apply for post-secondary education assistance through the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of Yukon First Nations' building in Whitehorse.

Capital

Capital funding for Canada's Green Plan Initiative and Bill C-31 Housing Program was formerly provided through the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs for self governing First Nations. Canada has negotiated and signed PSTAs

with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations for capital resources.

Social Development

The Champagne and Aishihik First Nations administer funds for social assistance through the PSTA negotiated with the Government of Canada. The agreement allows for one full-time and one part-time social administrator. The program includes Basic Needs, Special Needs, and Elders' Fuel programs. The First Nations have administered their own social assistance program in the jurisdiction of Haines Junction for the last decade.

Economic Development

Canada has negotiated and signed PSTAs with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. These apply to the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) and provides for subsistence, traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nations' members through community-designed and administered programs.

The First Nations were operating under a second five-year Alternate Funding Arrangement (AFA) which ended in 1993. They were the first in the north to have their programs funded this way.

Their commercial interests are identified through their Economic Development Board.

First Nation Government

Through the PSTAs negotiated under their Final Agreement, Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nations Council to administer its responsibilities to the First Nations' membership and to provide a central administrative base.

The First Nations have a constitution which deals with matters of membership, election of Chief and Council, general reporting procedures of the First Nation Council and staff to its general membership, and other functions, activities and responsibilities to fulfill the First Nations' objectives.

The Chief and Council have portfolios in the following areas:

FIRST NATION AFFAIRS/POLITICAL:

First Nation Affairs, Land Claims
Public Relations

SOCIAL PROGRAMS:

Social Development
Family Support
Community Health
Drug and Alcohol Awareness

ADMINISTRATION/GENERAL WORKS:

Housing
Municipal Services
Human Resources Development
Finance

EDUCATION

RENEWABLE AND LAND RESOURCES:

All matters dealing with hunting, trapping, fishing, forestry, parks; land and wildlife management.

ELDERS' PROGRAM:

All programs and concerns regarding elders.
Elders Council
Elders benefit payments
The councillors are also responsible for the areas that elect them.

Community Infrastructure

As part of the Self Government/Land Claims Agreements, Canada has negotiated and signed PSTAs with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations for the delivery of community infrastructure services such as road maintenance, community buildings, and municipal and fire protection services.

The First Nation delivers chlorinated well-water by truck to residents. Some First Nations' residents receive piped water from the town system.

Sewage is piped for lagoon purification, then discharged into the Dezadeash River. Some of the First Nations' homes have septic tanks. Garbage is collected by truck, and is disposed of in a Y.T.G. approved open dump site.

LEGAL STATUS OF COMMUNITY

Haines Junction is incorporated under the Municipal Act as a village with an elected council on which some First Nation members sit. The First Nation is primarily located east of the village of Haines Junction on Lot 30.



**CHAMPAGNE and AISHIHIK First Nations
Heritage Office**

DEASE RIVER FIRST NATION

Good Hope Lake, B.C.

ADDRESS:

General Delivery
Good Hope Lake, B.C.
V0C 2Z0
Phone No.: (250) 239-3000
Fax No.: (250) 239-3003

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Kaska and Tahltan

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Kaska Tribal Council

GENERAL

The original inhabitants of the area were the Kaska Indians from the northern areas and the Tahltans from the south and west. The current community was a camp area during the migration of the bands in search of seasonal food sources.

The community of Good Hope Lake is a small, aboriginal settlement on the Stewart-Cassiar Highway, in the remote north-central part of British Columbia.

When the closure of Cassiar Mine in 1992, Good Hope Lake residents became anxious about the maintenance of essential services, and began to lobby both the provincial and federal governments for help. The two governments have been working with First Nation people to help establish such services as emergency medical and evacuation measures.

Traffic along the highway has been growing annually; it is hoped that tourism will become a major part of the local economy.

The Dease River First Nation was originally part of the Liard River First Nation, but acquired separate status under DIAND in 1988. Although located in B.C., the First Nation is served through the Yukon Region of Indian and Northern Affairs.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and three Councillors.

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. The First Nation Council is elected every two years by the general membership. The last election was held in July of 1993. The First Nation is moving towards a more traditional hereditary/custom system.

QUORUM

Three members of Council

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The Dease River First Nation does not have a membership code at present.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF- GOVERNMENT

The Dease River First Nation is not part of the Council for Yukon Indians Comprehensive Land Claim Settlement. It is

expected that Dease River First Nation will negotiate their land claims and self government agreements through the B.C. Treaty Commission, established in September of 1992.

The First Nation has completed talks with the B.C. provincial government regarding allocation of parcels of land with full reserve status. These lands, about 160 hectares, are partial repayment for use of existing reserve land as a highway thoroughfare.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

M.L.A.: The Honourable Mike Scott,
Reform, Skeena Riding

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Two diesel generators supply the community with power.

MAIN RESUPPLY: The chip-sealed all-weather Cassiar Highway bisects the community. Watson Lake is 140 km north, and the former Cassiar mine and town is 30 km south of Good Hope Lake. There are no services left in Cassiar.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The First Nation has purchased a fire truck with funding from Indian and Inuit Affairs. First Nation members have received training in firefighting and volunteer their service in fire protection.

POLICE: Dease Lake detachment (Tel. 250-771-4111) "E" Div. (BC)

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked three times a week to Good Hope Lake.

BANKS: None - the nearest bank is in Watson Lake.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: Service station and grocery store in Good Hope Lake, campground nearby at Boya Lake Provincial Park.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building
Carpentry Shop
Garage
Store
Warehouse
School
Fire Hall
Community Hall
School - Adult Education
44 Houses

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	10
On Reserve	61
Off Reserve	<u>77</u>
Total	148

14 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The Dease River First Nation has limited access to economic opportunities due to its geographic isolation - the larger centres of Whitehorse, Yukon and Terrace, B.C. are both more than 500 km away.

Tourism service industry and the First Nation office offer some employment. Most First Nation members have a traditional subsistence lifestyle. About 10 members are

employed through the First Nation office, gas station, store, and local school.

FIRST NATION LANDS

Dease River First Nation has negotiated a specific claim which sets out approximately 400 acres of reserve land. All agreements with the provincial and federal government are complete as well as the necessary surveys.

ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 80.322 Ha. in and around Good Hope Lake
LAND SET ASIDE: 0
PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: 0
RESERVES: 4

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Services

Social Development

The Dease River First Nation administers social assistance to its members. This includes In-Home Adult Care, Basic and Special Needs, and Elders' fuel. The Department of Indian and Inuit Affairs has occasionally added administration cost reimbursements.

Education

The B.C. Government transferred control of the former Stikine District #87 school adjacent to the old highways camp to the First Nation. This facility provides three large classrooms, plus an auditorium and a library/home economics room. With funding from DIAND, the Dease River Band Council renovated and upgraded this facility, and the school opened for classes in September 1992.

Students from kindergarten to grade twelve are enrolled in the school. Funding was also provided by DIAND for the renovation of a teacherage.

The First Nation currently employs a full-time Principal/teacher and an additional full-time teacher. The school also has its own Administrator and a School Committee of 4 community residents.

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the First Nation for costs associated with the Band-operated school and for the position of Community Education Liaison Coordinator. (CELC). First Nation members may apply for post-secondary educational support from the First Nations' Education Program in the Council for Yukon Indians' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse.

Economic Development

There are two operating firms in Good Hope Lake, both in the service/tourism sector: a gas station/garage and a grocery store - **Good Hope Lake Services.**

Most other services were offered in Cassiar before the mine closed in mid-1992. With traffic along the highway growing annually, it is hoped tourism will become a major contributor to the local economy.

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). Programs are administered to provide for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community-designed and administered programs.

Capital

The Dease River First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Program Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

Indian and Inuit Affairs' Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to its membership and provide a central administrative base.

The First Nation is continuing to develop the First Nation Council, its policies and

guidelines, and to organize its staff. The Council works as a group in establishing policies for the First Nation.

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The Dease River First Nation receives contributions for municipal and fire protection services, roads and electrical power.

Water for the village is supplied by three wells. Houses near the wells are on a direct pipe system while those further away receive water deliveries by truck.

The sanitation system includes out-houses, septic tanks and leaching pits. Garbage is picked-up twice weekly by the First Nation's truck and taken to the community dump.

KLUANE FIRST NATION

Burwash Landing, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Mile 1093 Alaska Highway
Burwash Landing, Yukon
Y0B 1H0

Phone No.: (867) 841-4274

Fax No.: (867) 841-5900

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Southern Tutchone of Athapaskan descent,
Northern Tutchone.

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Southern Tutchone Tribal Council

GENERAL

The Shakwak Valley has been inhabited for over 10,000 years, and is the homeland of the Southern Tutchone people who had stop-over camps throughout the area during the aboriginal seasonal migration in search of food.

Two Jacquot brothers, Louie and Gene, built a trading post at Burwash Landing in 1904. Most of the native people used the area for a summer stop, but after the Jacquots built some cabins in the area, they moved closer to the post and began a more stationary life-style.

The construction of the Alaska Highway in 1942 led Indian and Inuit Affairs to make Burwash Landing the administrative centre for First Nations in the Kluane area.

In 1990 the band split into two: the White River First Nation, and the Kluane First Nation.

The population of Burwash Landing as of June 1997 was 88. The community is mainly aboriginal. The settlement is administered directly by the Yukon Territorial Government.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and two Councillors at large, an elder councillor and a youth councillor.

QUORUM

Any three members of Council.

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. All members living in Yukon who are age 16 and over are eligible to vote in the Kluane Peoples Assembly. The terms for Chief and Council is two years. The last election was held on July 29, 1996.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The Kluane First Nation has developed a membership code which is in their constitution. Inquiries regarding membership should therefore be directed to the First Nation's office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF- GOVERNMENT

Self-government negotiations began in 1993; the First Nation began full negotiations for final land claim and self-government agreements in late 1995.

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Kluane Riding.

M.L.A.: The Honourable Gary McRobb,
NDP

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The community is supplied power by diesel generators.

MAIN RESUPPLY: The paved all-weather Alaska Highway.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Burwash Landing has a fire chief, six volunteer fire fighters, a pumper truck and water tanks.

POLICE: The Burwash Landing area is served by the Haines Junction Detachment 100 km away (one corporal, two constables and various vehicles) Tel: 634-5555

POST OFFICE: Mail is delivered twice a week.

BANKS: There is no banking service in Burwash Landing.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: Burwash Landing: resort/hotel, restaurant, gas station.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Garage
4 Warehouses

Community Centre
Washroom
Recycling Building
Administration Building
41 Houses

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	67
On Reserve	1
Off Reserve	80
Total	148

61 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997. Of the First Nation members living off-reserve, most reside in Whitehorse.

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

LAND SET ASIDE: 334.125 Ha. in and around Burwash Landing.

RESERVE LAND: None.

PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: 10 parcels and 21 lots.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The economic base is primarily subsistence hunting, fishing and trapping which supplies about 80% of the food for Burwash Landing residents. Most residents are employed seasonally in tourism or full-time through the First Nation office.

Many members have left the community to find work elsewhere.

***PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE
FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY
INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS***

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Services

Social Development

The Kluane First Nation receives and administers funds from Indian and Inuit Affairs for social assistance. The First Nation has administered its own social programs for over a decade. These include In-home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel, and Basic and Special Needs.

Education

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the First Nation directly for school supplies and the services of a part-time Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC). Students at Burwash Landing are bussed to the **Destruction Bay School**, which serves grades kindergarten to grade 8. High school students may attend in Haines Junction or Whitehorse.

Students must move to Haines Junction or Whitehorse to complete their education. First Nation members with registered status may apply for post-secondary educational support from the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building in Whitehorse.

Economic Development

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). The funding provides for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises.

As part of the Kluane First Nation's plans for economic development, it has identified the necessity to access training and educational needs, and to identify funding sources.

The First Nation operates some businesses, including a small general store for its members' use, and a cottage industry which produce jam.

The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community designed and administered programs.

Capital

The Kluane First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets, as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

First Nation Band Support Funding is provided to the Council to administer its

responsibilities to First Nation membership and provide a central administrative base.

The Council has portfolios in the following areas:

Executive Director and Finance
Renewable Resources
Elders' Programs
Social Development
Economic Development/Capital
Projects/Infrastructure

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The Kluane First Nation receives funding for the maintenance of roads and community buildings, as well as for municipal and fire protection services.

At Burwash Landing, there are nine wells supplied by the waters of Half-breed Creek and Kluane Lake forming the water supply. Water is delivered by truck.

The sanitation system is a combination of septic fields and holding tanks. Tanks are emptied regularly; septic fields are pumped out as needed.

KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION*

Whitehorse, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 1217
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 5A5
Phone No.: (867) 633-7800
Fax No.: (867) 668-5057

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Northern and Southern Tutchone, some Tagish. *The First Nation is made up of two main groups: Ta'an Kwach'an from the north and Kwanlin Dun from the south. See "Ta'an Kwach'an" in separate section.

GENERAL

Before the establishment of Whitehorse as a central settlement, aboriginal people occupied, harvested, and used as a main meeting place the area now known as Whitehorse. While the traditional members of the Kwanlin Dun were based in the Marsh Lake areas, the Ta'an Kwach'an people were concentrated more along southern Lake Laberge, as far as Hootalinqua.

The non-native community of Whitehorse developed because of its location at the start of the navigable waters on the Yukon River upstream from Dawson City. When the White Pass and Yukon Route sternwheelers plied the Yukon River in the first half of the century, aboriginal people were employed to cut fuel-wood for the boat boilers. This employment led to the establishment of a small settlement on the east bank of the

Yukon River, which in turn attracted more aboriginal people to the area.

In 1956, the department amalgamated the two Whitehorse-area First Nations under the title of Whitehorse Indian Band, which had formerly been composed of an affiliation of traditional Kwanlin Dun members and other First Nations. The Whitehorse Indian Band was the predecessor to the current Kwanlin Dun First Nation. Since that time, departmental programs for the combined band have been administered through the Kwanlin Dun First Nation offices. The Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council are now taking steps to formally separate and to recognize each other as separate and distinct First Nations. (SEE: Ta'an Kwach'an Council).

The city has experienced a series of booms and busts since the gold rush of 1898, mainly related to mining and highway construction activities. In 1953, the Yukon Territorial Government office moved to Whitehorse from Dawson City. Y.T.G. has since become the largest employer in the area, lending a fair amount of stability to the economy. In recent years, tourism has grown at a rapid pace to become a major factor in the local economy.

Today Whitehorse has a population of 24,031 people according to June 1997 statistics.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and six Councillors. The leadership is in the process of developing a constitution, which was put to a vote late in 1997. The document proposed laws for governing the first nation and methods of selection of its leadership. The membership voted “no” to the proposed constitution, which is necessitated for finalization of land claims.

QUORUM

Chief and three Councillors

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. Franchise is extended to First Nation members 16 years of age and over. Elections for Chief and Council are held every four years. The last election was held in April 1996.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The Kwanlin Dun First Nation has received funding to establish a membership code but has not yet implemented a code.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

A Land Claims and Self Government package was presented to Federal and Territorial Governments in July, 1997.

In 1996 the Ta'an Kwach'an Council signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the federal and Yukon Governments to define its Land Claims Settlement.

At this time negotiations between the Kwanlin Dun and Ta'an Kwach'an Council

have been on-going, which will result in an amicable separation of the two First Nations.

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - McIntyre-Takhini Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Piers MacDonald, NDP, Government Leader.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Whitehorse Rapids Electrical Dam supplies power to all residences within city limits.

MAIN RESUPPLY: All-weather Alaska Highway, Whitehorse International Airport. All-weather Klondike Highway to Skagway, Alaska.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The First Nation is serviced by the City's fire department which has 20 permanent fire fighters, Chief and Deputy, approx. 15 volunteers at two fully equipped firehalls - downtown Whitehorse, and Takhini. All fire fighters are trained in rescue and emergency techniques.

POLICE: RCMP Headquarters (Tel: 667-5555) with 1 Inspector, 2 Sergeants, 5 Corporals, and 32 Constables, and specialized sections/units. Transport: numerous vehicles, 2 boats, ATVs, snowmobiles and specialty equipment. The Division's aircraft section consists of 1 staff sergeant, 1 sergeant, 1 mechanic, and 1 aircraft (DeHavilland twin otter). The aircraft section is based in Whitehorse.

The Kwanlin Dun First Nation receives funds from the Solicitor General for its own crime prevention force, which includes constables and an officer from RCMP headquarters.

POST OFFICE: Mail is delivered daily.

BANKS: The Whitehorse area is served by five major Canadian chartered banks. Automatic banking machines are available.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: All essential services are provided in the Whitehorse area.

The McIntyre Subdivision is serviced by the City of Whitehorse's water and sewage systems. Installation of water and sewer systems is in progress for houses and building lots on Crow Street. Maintenance of roads is shared with the City of Whitehorse. A pumphouse located at Lake Laberge supplies fresh water.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building
Na Kwa Ta Ku Potlatch House
Elders Complex
Ashea Headstart Daycare
Cultural Centre
Jackson Lake Healing Centre
Kwanlin Dun Health Centre
2 Carpentry Shops
3 Warehouses
245 Houses
2 Garages

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Reserve	46
Off Reserve	318
On Crown Land	<u>766</u>
Total	1130

371 members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LANDS: 129.504 Ha. at the lower end of Lake Laberge.
LAND SET ASIDE: 348.026 Ha. in and around City of Whitehorse, Lake Laberge, Marsh Lake
PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: 27 parcels + 12 (Lots 327-671 & 672-901)
RESERVE: 1

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

*	Social Development
*	Economic Development
*	Education
*	Capital
*	First Nation Government/Band Support
*	Community Infrastructure and Services O & M

Social Development

The Kwanlin Dun First Nation receives and administers funds from Indian and Inuit Affairs for social assistance. They have administered their own social program for over 10 years, including In-Home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel, and Basic and Special Needs.

Economic Development

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). The funding provides for subsistence, elders' traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal

is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community-designed and administered programs.

Education

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the Kwanlin Dun First Nation directly for related costs and services, and for Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) positions. Students attend public schools in Whitehorse or Yukon College.

Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program, located in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse.

Capital

The Kwanlin Dun First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to its members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of them.

In 1996, funding was provided under the Health and Safety Initiative to install sewer and water systems to 8 houses on Crow Street, and 30-40 building lots. Water and sewer system installations are currently under construction. They are expected to be completed by mid-1998.

First Nation Government/Band Support

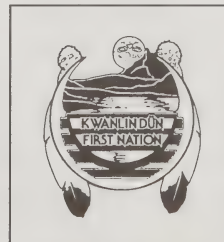
Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to carry out its responsibilities to its membership and provide a central base for administration.

The Political leadership is organized on the portfolio system. Chief and Councillors have responsibilities for various areas, including: Land Claims, Finance and Communications. Recreation, Education, Rural Concerns. Policing, Health, and Recreation. Social/Health, Economic Development, and Land Claims. Education, Policing, and Rural Concerns. Housing, Economic Development, and Communications.

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The Kwanlin Dun First Nation receives funding for roads and community buildings, as well as for municipal and fire protection services.

Garbage collection is done by the First Nation for its members.



LIARD RIVER FIRST NATION*

Watson Lake, Yukon

the legal name for this First Nation is "Liard River Band"

ADDRESS:

Box 328
Watson Lake, Yukon
Y0A 1C0
Phone No.: (867) 536-2131
Fax No.: (867) 536-2332

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Kaska of Athapaskan descent

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Kaska Tribal Council

GENERAL

The original people of the area, the Kaska-Dena, were seasonal migrants travelling within their established territory while hunting and gathering food supplies. Their territory included the upper Liard, Frances, and Highland rivers and extended into the upper Pelly drainage in the north to the Dease River in the southwest.

As European explorers crossed the eastern mountains into Kaska lands, trade quickly developed. The establishment of trading posts in the 1800s altered the migration patterns of the aboriginals who began to settle nearby. Lower Post was the main settlement, although Watson Lake and Upper Liard soon became important centres.

In 1961, the five Kaska First Nations in the area were amalgamated into the Liard River

First Nation and a central settlement and administrative base was established in Upper Liard. In 1985, a referendum decided that the First Nation should break into three independent groups. Although the Dease River First Nation gained full status as a separate First Nation in 1988, the Lower Post group has not yet gained formal separate status from the Liard River First Nation.

Shortly after the Second World War, the Department of Indian Affairs began building central settlements for aboriginal people. Upper Liard was established as the main community for the Liard River First Nation.

Watson Lake has since become the regional service and business centre for the area, with forestry and energy exploration adding to the economic growth. The lead-zinc mine at nearby **Sa Dena Hes** opened in 1991 and employed many aboriginal people until its closure 1993. In 1994, bought by Cominco and Teck Corp., it was called **Kudz ze Kayah** project.

Watson Lake is an incorporated town with June 1997 population of 1,791. Many First Nation members live within Watson Lake town limits, or on the outskirts of the town in the communities of Two-mile and Two and a Half Mile villages.

Upper Liard, an unincorporated village, has a total population of about 130. Over 85 residents are First Nation members.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Liard River First Nation's leadership is made up of a Chief and four Councillors

QUORUM

Chief and two Councillors

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. Members of the Liard River First Nation elected their first-ever elected Chief and Council in October 1992. Prior to that, the band had a hereditary chief system, under which the Deputy Chief and Councillors were appointed. The position of hereditary chief remains. The Chief can vote on both the Liard River First Nation and Lower Post First Nation Councils.

An election was held November 27, 1995 for a chief, a deputy chief and six councillors. The chief was re-elected.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The Liard River First Nation has received funding to develop a membership code, but to date has not implemented one.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

Negotiations of the Final Land Claims and Self Government Agreements pursuant to the Umbrella Final Agreement have commenced.

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Watson Lake Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Dennis Fentie,
NDP

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The Yukon Electrical Co. Ltd. distributes power from the diesel generating plant in Watson Lake.

MAIN RESUPPLY: The paved all-weather Alaska Highway.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Watson Lake has a fire chief, 15 volunteers, equipment and a 4,546-litre water tank. Smaller communities have fire extinguishers and shovel and axe caches.

POLICE: The Watson Lake RCMP detachment has one sergeant, one corporal, five constables and one native special constable. The detachment serves all surrounding communities.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked or flown in three times a week.

BANKS: The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce operates a branch in Watson Lake.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: Most facilities are available in Watson Lake, including a women's transition home. The Upper Liard Resort in Upper Liard has six rooms, a lounge, cafe and native crafts store.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

2 Wash-houses
Community Building
Community Hall
Administration Building
Garage
2 Warehouses
2 Community Buildings
110 Houses

POPULATION FIGURES: AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Reserve	143
Off Reserve	444
On Crown Land	<u>304</u>
Total	891

168 of the above members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997. The population figures include the Lower Post First Nation membership.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employment opportunities are fairly limited, due to the small number of available jobs and a lack of training or experience on the part of those seeking employment. Nearby Watson Lake offers more chance of employment, causing some migration away from traditional First Nation lands.

FIRST NATION LANDS ACREAGE AND STATUS

LAND SET ASIDE: 328.0445 Ha. in and around Watson Lake.
RESERVE LAND: 1,432.5 Ha.
PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: 23
RESERVES: 9 - located in northern B.C.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

*	Social Development
*	Education
*	Economic Development
*	Capital
*	First Nation Government
*	Community Infrastructure and Services

Social Development

The Liard River First Nation receives and administers funds for social assistance. They also receive funds for a social services worker, and they have administered their own social program for over a decade. The program include In-Home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel, and Basic Needs.

Education

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the Liard River First Nation for school supplies and for the position of a Community Education Liaison Co-ordinator (CELC). In previous years a group home was also financed, but it was closed when it was no longer required.

Students attend elementary and high school in Watson Lake. Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support from the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

Economic Development

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic

Development Strategy (CAEDS). The funds provide for subsistence, elders' traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises.

Their goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community-designed and administered programs.

Cominco is in the process of negotiating a socio-economic agreement with the Liard First Nation, and will be considering first nation citizens for employment in the event that the **Sa Dene Hes** lead-zinc mine is re-opened. The mine, which had been called the **Kudz ze Kaya** project in 1994, has been shut down for 5 years.

Capital

The Liard River First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets, as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to its membership and to provide a central administrative base.

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The Liard First Nation receives money for the operation of water, sewer and fire protection services, and for the maintenance of community buildings and roads. The Watson Lake Town Council previously received funding to administer municipal services to First Nation members living within town limits.

Water is delivered to the aboriginal communities by a private water-trucking company, three times a week. In Upper Liard, 10 wells have been drilled for individual homes. Sewage facilities include septic holding tanks, sub-surface tile fields and out-houses. Newer houses use septic holding tanks exclusively because concerns were raised about water contamination from out-houses. Holding tank contents are pumped into the Watson Lake municipal sewer/lagoon system. The First Nation administers its own sanitation service.

Under Canada's Green Plan, DIAND provided funding for a treatment and storage building, an intake into the river, and a delivery truck to provide safe drinking water. The building is large enough to park and load the truck inside, an important feature during severe winter weather. The total project cost about \$1 million.

LITTLE SALMON/CARMACKS FIRST NATION

Carmacks, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 135
Carmacks, Yukon
Y0B 1C0
Phone No.: (867) 863-5576
Fax No.: (867) 863-5710

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Northern Tutchone of Athabaskan descent.

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Northern Tutchone Council

GENERAL

Carmacks is located about 180 km north of Whitehorse on the Klondike Highway. Its June 1997 population was 478. Much of the population is aboriginal; Carmacks has been a major centre for local First Nations for many centuries.

Before the Klondike Gold Rush of 1898, the area was a campsite on a main trade route used by the coastal Tlingits and the northern and interior Kutchin. As non-aboriginals poured into the area, a roadhouse was built by George Carmacks. A sternwheeler service port quickly followed.

Most of the area's aboriginal people migrated to town as river traffic ceased. They settled on land set aside for them on the north bank of the Yukon River, where the main community still stands. When the Klondike Highway was completed in 1950, Carmacks became a major service centre.

Quality coal was found in the area and several mines operated until 1981. Today, the economy is still largely service and tourism-oriented. Mining and exploration augment community revenues.

Carmacks became incorporated as a village in 1984, and is run by a municipal council on which First Nation members sometimes sit as elected members.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and four Councillors

QUORUM

Any four members of council.

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election systems with franchise is extended to First Nation members over the age of 16. The Chief is elected to 4 year term, while 2 wolf and 2 crow councillors are appointed. The youth councillor is appointed by the youth council; the elders councillor is appointed by the elders' council. The last election was held in November 1996.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The First Nation now has a membership code.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation have completed their Final and Self-

Government agreements.* The agreements were signed by all parties on July 21, 1997 and became effective on October 1, 1997.

(*See **Appendix** for Highlights and Back-grounder of the First Nation's Agreements)

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON
TERRITORY - Mayo-Tatchun Riding**

M.L.A.: The Honourable Eric Fairclough,
NDP; previously Chief of the Little
Salmon/Carmacks First Nation

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: A transmission line runs from the Whitehorse dam, administered by Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. There is an auxiliary local diesel generator.

MAIN RESUPPLY: Paved all-weather Klondike Highway. The unpaved all-weather Robert Campbell Highway is a secondary route.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire chief and 10 volunteers with pumper-truck, hoses, ladders, breathing apparatus, portable pump, two 6,700-litre water tanks - one in town and one with the First Nation.

POLICE: RCMP detachment with a corporal, a constable and a native special constable.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week.

BANKS: The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is open twice a week all year long.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: Facilities of all types are available to the public, however there is no hospital in the area.

**CURRENT INVENTORY OF
BUILDINGS**

Administration Building
NNDAP Office
Workshop
2 Garages
Daycare Centre
Youth Recreation Centre
Community Hall
Airport Lake Cultural Centre
99 Houses
One 5-plex
Heritage Hall - water haul

**POPULATION FIGURES
AS OF APRIL, 1997 (STATUS ONLY)**

On Crown Land	255
On Reserve	0
Off Reserve	229
Total	484

67 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employment opportunities in the Carmacks area are limited, although during the summer employment opportunities are increased due to tourism and mining activities. The Little Salmon/Carmacks Administration Building houses many agencies or areas of the First Nation's concern, and thereby employs many members and residents.

**FIRST NATION LANDS*
ACREAGE AND STATUS**

RESERVE LAND: None.

LAND SET ASIDE: None - settled and transferred with Land Claims Settlement
PARCELS SET ASIDE: None, transferred with Settlement
RESERVES: None

*(See Highlights of Final Agreement in Appendix)

***PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY
THE FIRST NATION under the Programs
and Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA)
negotiated in Self Government Agreements***

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Services

Social Development

The Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation receives and administers funds for social assistance through the PSTA negotiated with the Government of Canada. The First Nation has administered its own social programs for a decade, which has included In-home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel, and Basic Needs.

Education

Students can attend grades K-12 at the **Tantalus School** in Carmacks. The higher grades were introduced in 1986, and since then the number of students graduating has increased noticeably.

Under their PSTA, the First Nation is funded for a Community Education Liaison

Coordinator (CELC) position and other related costs and services. Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

Economic Development

Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation. The PSTA applies to the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) and provides for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises.

Other revenue is supplied by other federal or territorial government agencies or by the First Nation's own economic development arm, the Carmacks Development Corp. The First Nation corporation owns and operates the **Northern Tutchone Trading Post** at the north end of the bridge. It is a general store that sells handmade native crafts as well hunting/fishing licences. The Trading Post also has a post office. This venture and the First Nation office create employment for members.

Future business possibilities are being studied, and negotiations have continued with Western Copper Holdings for joint ownership in a mine only 25 km. from Carmacks. A chipper has been installed in the new Administration Building, as part of the Alternative Energy Program, which may provide some revenue or employment opportunities.

Capital

The First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members.

Canada has negotiated and signed Programs and Services Transfer Agreements with the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation for all capital resources.

First Nation Government

Through the Programs and Services Transfer Agreement negotiated under their Final Agreement, Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to the First Nation's membership and to provide a central administrative base.

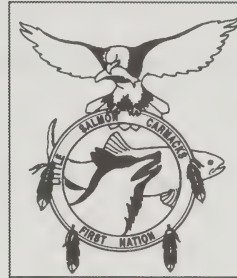
The Chief and Council have portfolios in the following areas:

- Economic Development
- Recreation
- Finance
- General Concerns
- Housing

Community Infrastructure

As part of the Self Government/Land Claims settlement, Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation for the delivery of community infrastructure services such as road maintenance, community buildings, and municipal and fire protection services.

The First Nation still uses a majority of deep wells. Garbage is hauled by the First Nation for members to a community land-fill.



LOWER POST FIRST NATION*

Watson Lake, Yukon

* formerly known as Liard Reserve #3

ADDRESS:

Box 489

Watson Lake, Yukon

Y0A 1C0

Phone No.: (250) 779-3161

Fax No.: (250) 779-3371

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Kaska of Athapaskan descent.

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Kaska Tribal Council

GENERAL

The original inhabitants of the area, the Kaska-Dena, were seasonal migrants travelling within their established territory while hunting and gathering food supplies. Their territory included the upper Liard River area from the Cassiar mountains in the west, to the Simpson Mountains in the east.

As European explorers crossed into Kaska lands, trade quickly developed. Early trading posts, though short-lived, had the effect of changing the migrational patterns of the aboriginal people. As the trading posts became more permanent, the aboriginal population began to settle, first in Lower Post and later in Watson Lake. A major residential school was built in Lower Post in 1953 which served the southern

Yukon and north-eastern B.C. until the 1970s.

Currently the Kaska First Nation consists of five bands: Liard First Nations, Lower Post First Nation, Dease River Band, Ross River Band and Fort Ware Band. Direction is provided by an Annual General Assembly consensus.

Today, Lower Post is an unincorporated community on reserve land and is administered by the province of British Columbia on crown land. There has been discussion among First Nation members about possible consolidation of all lands in order to eliminate jurisdictional overlap.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The leadership of Lower Post First Nation is composed of a Deputy Chief (elected by the membership of the Liard River Band) and two Councillors.

QUORUM

Chief and two council members

METHOD OF ELECTION

The Deputy Chief and Council are elected by the membership of the Liard River Band, of which Lower Post is a part. The last election was held on November 27, 1995.

Members of the Liard River Band voted in their first-ever elected Chief and Council in October 1992. Prior to that, the band had a hereditary chief system, under which the Deputy Chief and Councillors were appointed. At present, the hereditary Chief is Dixon Lutz. He has a vote on both the Liard River Band and on the Lower Post Councils.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The Lower Post First Nation has not yet separated from the Liard River First Nation, nor has it completed an independent membership document.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

Lower Post is not covered by the Council of Yukon Indians' Comprehensive Land Claims settlement, but is negotiating settlement with the federal and B.C. governments through its own Kaska Dena Council.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

M.L.A.: The Honourable Bill Goodacre, NDP Bulkley Valley - Stikine Riding.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. operates a diesel generating plant in Watson Lake which services Lower Post.

MAIN RESUPPLY: Paved all-weather bypass from the Alaska Highway.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Lower Post supplies all fire-fighting services.

POLICE: The nearest RCMP detachment is in Watson Lake.

BANKS: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Watson Lake.

POST OFFICE: There is no mail delivery to Lower Post; mail is trucked to Watson Lake three times a week.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: There are no public facilities in Lower Post because of the small size of the community.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS:

First Nation Band Office
Garage
Workshop
Daycare Centre
Warehouse
Fire Hall
Water Treatment Building
46 Houses
School
Roman Catholic Church

POPULATION FIGURES: AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 1997 (STATUS ONLY)

On Reserve	160
------------	-----

36 of the above members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of December, 1993. It is difficult to acquire figures for Lower Post as members are still included in the Liard River Band membership list.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Unemployment is high among First Nation members in Lower Post. The economy is

subsistence-based, with some resource-based activity in the area. Employment is provided through the First nation office, and programs create much of the remaining income.

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LANDS: Lower Post First Nation established in 1961.

OTHER LANDS: Settled provincial Crown land at Lower Post.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Services

Social Development

Lower Post First Nation receives and administers funds from Indian and Inuit Affairs to provide members residing on reserve with social assistance. Funding is provided for a social services worker.

The First Nation has been administering its own Social Development Program since 1983, including Adult In-Home Care, Special Needs, Basic Needs and Elders Wood Program. The social assistance recipients willingly work for an active Community Enhancement Program.

Education

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds Lower Post for school supplies, bus costs, and for the position of a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC). The Education Coordinator is responsible for coordinating education/training programs including a literacy and home/school liaison program, boarding program, adult education program.

All area students attend the local elementary school and travel to Watson Lake for secondary school education. The Lower Post Education Committee, consisting of parents, school staff, band staff, leadership and community members, provides direction regarding educational matters in Lower Post. The First Nation maintains a local education agreement with Stikine District #87. An extensive community career resource center has recently been established.

Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse.

Economic Development

Lower Post receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). This funding provides for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises.

The First Nation recently hired a Economic Development Advisor to assess community economic initiatives. Phase one of a five-

year Community Human Resources Development plan is nearing completion. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community designed and administered programs.

Capital

The Lower Post First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to its members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets, as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to its membership and to provide a central administrative base.

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. Although half of Lower Post First Nation members live on provincial Crown land, Indian and Inuit Affairs also funds their infrastructure. The First Nation receives funds for community buildings, maintaining roads and for providing water, sewer, and fire protection services.

Most First Nation residences receive water from a First Nation-operated truck delivery system. There are also numerous private

wells. Under Canada's Green Plan, DIAND provided funding for a treatment and storage building, an intake into the river, and a truck to deliver safe drinking water. The building is large enough to load or park the truck inside, an important feature during severe winter weather. The total project cost was about \$1 million.

The sewage system includes out-houses, tile fields and holding tanks. New houses have holding tanks only. The Lower Post First Nation has been contracted to pump out members' holding tanks. They are emptied into the Watson Lake lagoon treatment system.

The First Nation collects garbage for members and hauls it to a community landfill site.



FIRST NATION OF NA-CHO NY'A'K DUN

Mayo, Yukon

ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 220

Mayo, Yukon

Y0B 1M0

Phone No.: (867) 996-2265

Fax No.: (867) 996-2107

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Northern Tutchone of Athapaskan descent

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Northern Tutchone Council

GENERAL

Na-cho Ny'a'k Dun First Nation inhabits land in and around the village of Mayo. Mayo is located 407 km north of Whitehorse and is surrounded by mountains, numerous lakes, rivers and creeks. The village is situated on the flood plain of the northern bank of the Stewart River, 5 metres above the water level. The area is susceptible to flooding during runoff, but is protected by dikes. The hills and mountains in the area are overgrown with small timber that is cut and hauled to be used locally as firewood.

Historically, Mayo was a fur trade centre; presently there are approximately 78 traplines in the area. When gold and silver were found in local creeks, Mayo Landing emerged as a shipping port and served the mining industry, until a road was built in the 1950s. When the port declined as a result of decreased river traffic, Mayo became a

prospecting base for mineral exploration in the surrounding area, rather than a service base.

According to June 1997 statistics, the resident population of Mayo is 507. Mayo's economy includes retail outlets, motels and two transport companies. The tourist trade has taken root in the community with more public facilities opening up, including cafe, gas station, and wilderness, fishing and touring businesses. The 50 km. highway between Mayo and the Klondike Highway at Stewart is referred to as the "Silver Trail."

The town functions as a distribution centre for the neighbouring communities of Elsa and Keno, although few people have remained in these towns since the United Keno Hill silver mines closed in 1989. During the winter, only about 18 people remain in Keno.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation's leadership is composed of a Chief and five Councillors

QUORUM

Chief or Deputy Chief and three Councillors

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. In the present constitution the Chief, Deputy Chief, and

elder are elected by the general membership, and two Councillors are selected by Wolf and Crow clans. The last election was held in September of 1997.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The First Nation membership document was approved in September 1987. Inquiries regarding membership should therefore be directed to the First Nation's office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

The First Nation Final and Self Government Agreements* were initialled in June of 1992. Both the Land Claim and Self Government Agreements were officially signed by Robert Hager, Chief of Na-cho Ny'a'k Dun, Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian and Northern Development, and John Ostashek, Yukon Government Leader, in the signing ceremony of May 29, 1993 in Whitehorse. Legislation came into effect on February 14, 1995.

(* See **Appendix** for Highlights of the First Nation's Agreements)

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Mayo-Tatchun Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Eric Fairclough, N.D.P

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. operates a hydro-electric station with standby diesel generator.

MAIN RESUPPLY: All-weather Klondike Highway.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: One pumper plus one 1,000-gallon tanker, 16 volunteers.

POLICE: RCMP detachment, one corporal, two constables, and one native special constable position, vehicles and boat.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week.

BANK: The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has an agency operation three times a week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: China Village Restaurant, Mayo Caselot, Mayo Variety store, service stations, Health Centre and Nursing Station, two motels, two Bed and Breakfast facilities, and tourist businesses (tours, fishing and wilderness programs), RV Park, public library.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS:

First Nation Office/Administration Building
Social Program Building
Land and Resource Building
Capital and Housing Building
Gazebo
2 Garages
2 Warehouses
Heating Plant
81 Houses

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 129.48 Ha. at junction of Stewart and McQuesten River

LAND SET ASIDE: None - settled and transferred with Land Claims Settlement*.

PARCELS SET ASIDE: None

*(See Highlights of Final Agreement in Appendix)

**POPULATION FIGURES:
AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region
(STATUS ONLY)**

On Crown Land	5
On Settlement Land	156
Off Reserve	<u>273</u>
Total	434

156 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

**PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY
THE FIRST NATION under the Programs
and Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA)
negotiated in Self Government Agreements**

- * Education
- * Social Development
- * Capital
- * Economic Development
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure & Service O & M
- * Implementation
- * Indian Registry
- * Enrolment
- * Traditional Pursuits/Cultural Events

Education

First Nation members attend school at **J.V. Clark School** in Mayo. Under their PSTA, the First Nation is funded for a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC), and for related costs and services.

Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program in the

Council of Yukon First Nation's Building on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

Social Development

The Na-cho Ny'a'k Dun First Nation administers funds for social assistance through the PSTA negotiated with the Government of Canada. The First Nation also receives funds for one social service worker, and has administered its own social assistance program for over a decade. This includes In-Home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel and Basic Needs and Special Needs programs.

Capital

Capital funding for Canada's Green Plan Initiative and Bill C-31 housing program is provided through the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs for the self-governing First Nations. The Government of Canada has negotiated and signed PSTAs with the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun for all other capital resources.

Economic Development

Under their PSTA, Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) funding is provided for programs including subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community designed and administered programs. The cafe is leased out by the Nacho Nyak Dun Corporation.

First Nation Government

Through the PSTA, Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to its membership and to provide a central administrative base.

The primary administrative responsibility lies with the First Nation Manager who directs all personnel, financial issues (other than large capital projects) and program management, with the exception of land claims.

The First Nation prepared an administrative policy manual in 1987 which outlines the responsibilities of the Chief, Council, First Nation staff and general organization. Council members are appointed portfolio responsibilities shortly after an election.

The current portfolios are:

- Land Claims
- Social Programs
- Capital Programs (including housing)
- Finance and Administration
- Economic Development and Lands
- Resource
- Education

Community Infrastructure

As part of the Self Government/Land Claims settlement, Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun for the delivery of community infrastructure services, such as road maintenance, community buildings, and municipal and fire protection services. The First Nation also receives funding for services performed by the town of Mayo.

During the past few years, a major project to bring water and sewer systems to First Nation residence has been completed. The project is funded by the Village of Mayo, Yukon Territorial Government, and Indian and Inuit Affairs.

ROSS RIVER DENA COUNCIL*

Ross River, Yukon

* the legal name for this First Nation is "Ross River Band"

ADDRESS:

General Delivery
Ross River, Yukon
Y0B 1P0
Phone No.: (867) 969-2277/78/79
Fax No.: (867) 969-2405

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Kaska/Slove of Athapaskan descent.

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Kaska Tribal Council

GENERAL

Ross River is located 360 km northeast of Whitehorse near the junction of the Campbell Highway and the Canol Road, in the Tintina Trench beside the Pelly River. Ross River is a community of 437 people according to June 1997 statistics, approximately 70% of which are aboriginal. The Canol Road intersects the town; First Nation residences are mainly on the eastern side and non-aboriginal on the west.

The original aboriginal people of the Upper Pelly River area used the Ross River site as a seasonal camp. As prospecting and mining grew in the area, Tlingit control of trade among the Kaskas was broken. A trading post was established near the present site in 1903.

Construction of the Canol road and pipeline in the 1940s opened the area to overland

traffic. Government offices were established in Ross River after the Second World War. In 1952, a split occurred in the First Nation and half the members went south to join the Liard River First Nation. The Ross River First Nation was officially recognized by Indian and Inuit Affairs in 1966.

Ross River is an unincorporated community directly administered by the Yukon government. An attempt was made to have Ross River become a self-administered village, but that issue has been stalled until land claims have been finalized.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Ross River Dena Council's leadership is composed of a Chief, and four Councillors.

QUORUM

Three members of council

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. Franchise is extended to First Nation members of 25 years of age and over for election of Chief and at age 16 for election of Council. Elected terms are for two years. The last election was held on August 11, 1995.

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Ross River Southern Lakes Riding.

M.L.A.: The Honourable Dave Keenan,
NDP

MEMBERSHIP CODE

A draft code did not meet the criteria set out in the Indian Act. The First Nation is continuing to work on a final version.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

Negotiations of the Final and Self Government Agreements pursuant to the Umbrella Final Agreement have not yet commenced.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: A transmission line from the Whitehorse Dam is administered by the Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. There are also three standby diesel generating units.

MAIN RESUPPLY: Unpaved all-weather Campbell Highway from Carmacks to Watson Lake.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Volunteer department with pumper, hoses, breathing equipment; water supply is the Pelly River.

POLICE: An RCMP detachment with one corporal, one constable, and one native special constable, equipped with snowmobiles, a boat and two vehicles.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week to the post-office.

BANKS: CIBC has an agency operation in Ross River, open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: A hotel (23 rooms), 3 gas/service stations, and a licensed restaurant are open for public use.

There are two general stores in the community, of which one is operated by the First Nation, and a public laundromat is operated by the First Nation five times a week.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). The funds provide for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for members through community designed and administered programs.

The First Nation has strived to build economic development enterprises which will provide long-term employment for its membership. Part of this initiative is a cooperative employment agreement with the Anvil Range Mine when it is operating.

Cominco is in the process of negotiating a socio-economic agreement with the Liard First Nation which may benefit the Ross River Dena Council as well. The Company will be considering first nation citizens for employment in the event that the **Sa Dene Hes** lead-zinc mine is re-opened. The mine, which had been called the **Kudz ze Kaya** project in 1994, has been shut down for 5 years.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building
Workshop
2 Garages
Community Hall

Drop-in Centre
Cultural Centre
Healing Centre
110 Houses
Washroom
Laundromat

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE Land: None

LAND SET ASIDE: 60.721 Ha. in and around the community of Ross River, set aside between 1965 and 1992.

PARCELS SET ASIDE: 16 (5 parcels - 13 lots)

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	292
On Reserve	9
Off Reserve	99
Total	400

34 First Nation members were reinstated by Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The economy of Ross River depends mostly on trapping, forestry, guiding, mineral exploration expediting and First Nation office employment. Many First Nation members are employed by the administration office.

Tangible socio-economic benefits are being reaped through agreements signed by the Ross River Dena Development Corporation with Anvil Range, Yukon Gold Corporation Resources (YGC), and Cominco, owner of the **Sa Dena Hes** mine near Watson Lake.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Services O & M

Social Development

The Ross River Dena Council receives funding from Indian and Inuit Affairs for social assistance. The Council has administered its own social program for over a decade. This includes In-home Adult Care, Elders' Wood, and Basic Needs and Special Needs.

Education

The **Ross River School** serves the community from grades K-10. Students must finish high school in Watson Lake, Faro or Whitehorse.

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the Council directly for the services of a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) and for related costs and services. Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support from the First Nations' Education Program in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse.

Yukon College also operates a Community Learning Centre offering technical and trades courses for adults. There has been continual growth in attendance.

Economic Development

The Ross River Dena Development Corporation is the Council's business development arm. This First Nation-owned company owns and operates a general store and has signed a variety of agreements with the mining industry in the recent past which enable the aboriginal community to benefit from economic growth and activity in the area.

Capital

The Ross River Dena Council provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to its members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

In 1994 the First Nation purchased 25 trailers from Anvil Range which were installed in 1995 in subdivisions with Green Plan funding.

First Nation Government

Band Support Funding is provided to the elected Council to administer its responsibilities to its membership and create a central administrative base.

The Chief and Council have portfolios in the following areas:

Political/First Nation Affairs

Social Development

Economic Development/Capital

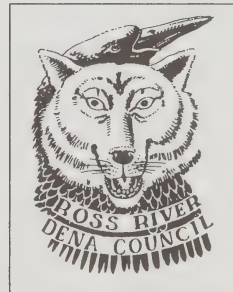
Education/Recreation

Land Claims/Uses

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The Ross River Dena Council receives funding for maintenance of roads and community buildings, and for the operation of sanitation, water and fire protection services. Water is delivered by truck three times a week from a new filtration well to all houses in the community.

The sanitation system includes individual and group septic tanks, subsurface tile fields and out-houses.



SELKIRK FIRST NATION

Pelly Crossing, Yukon

ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 40
Pelly Crossing, Yukon
Y0B 1P0
Phone No.: (867) 537-3331
Fax No.: (867) 537-3902

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Northern Tutchone of Athapaskan descent.

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Northern Tutchone Council

GENERAL

The Selkirk people originally led a nomadic life, migrating annually in search of food sources in the lower Pelly River area. When Fort Selkirk was established in the 1860s, First Nation members began settling there because of the availability of jobs and facilities.

Pelly Crossing was originally a ferry crossing and construction camp for highway workers, but lost its economic base when construction ended in the '50s. After the Klondike Highway was built, Fort Selkirk was abandoned. The First Nation was first moved to Minto and finally to the present location of Pelly Crossing DIA in an effort to centralize and to provide administrative expediency.

About 299 people live in Pelly Crossing according to June 1997 statistics, most of them aboriginal. Pelly Crossing is a

community administered by the Selkirk First Nation Council.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation's leadership is composed of a Chief and four Councillors. The last election was held on January 31, 1996.

QUORUM

Any three members of Council

CITIZENSHIP CODE

The Selkirk First Nation has developed their citizenship code and it is now part of their constitution. Inquiries regarding citizenship should be referred to the First Nation's office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Selkirk First Nation has completed their Final and Self-Government Agreements*. These were ratified in May 1997, and then signed at Minto Landing on June 21, 1997. (* See **Appendix** for Highlights and Backgrounder of the First Nation's Agreements)

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Mayo-Tatchun Riding.

M.L.A.: The Honourable Eric Fairclough,
NDP

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Two diesel generators are run by Yukon Electrical Company Ltd.

MAIN RESUPPLY: The all-weather Klondike Highway.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire chief, six volunteers, pumper-truck, portable pump, 4,500-litre water tank, protected river water-hole.

POLICE: RCMP detachment with one corporal, two constables, one boat, two vehicles and two quads.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week.

BANKS: Local CIBC Branch is open Tuesdays and Thursdays

PUBLIC FACILITIES: Service station with store and gas, RV dumpstation, Campground and RV services.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building (with 2 rental suites)
Heritage Centre - interpretive centre of the Northern Tutchone People
Arena/Curling Rink
Youth Centre
Garage
Warehouse
Workshop
Carpentry Shop
Community Hall (including 2 suites reserved for Yukon government officials)
Washhouse
113 Houses

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	275
On Reserve	1
Off Reserve	<u>193</u>
Total	469

104 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The employment opportunities in Pelly Crossing have always been limited, with little economic activity in the area. The only long-term employer is the First Nation office, with about 20 employees. Selkirk First Nation is looking at ways to stimulate the economy and to improve the employment rate through education and small business assistance.

FIRST NATION LAND* ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: None.
LAND SET ASIDE: None - transferred with Land Claims Settlement
PARCELS SET ASIDE: None, transferred with Settlement

*(See Highlights of Final Agreement Specific Provisions in Appendix)

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION under the Programs and Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA) negotiated in Self Government Agreements

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development

- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Services O & M

Social Development

The Selkirk First Nation administers funds for social assistance through the PSTA negotiated with the Government of Canada. The First Nation has administered its own social development program for over a decade. This includes In-Home Adult Care, Elders' Firewood and Basic and Special Needs Assistance.

Education

Students can attend grades K-12 at the **Eliza Van Bibber School**. Under their PSTA, the First Nation is funded for a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) and for other related costs and services.

In May of 1993, two grade 12 students graduated from the school for the first time in its history. Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse.

The First Nation foresees the need for higher education and job training, in order to administer programs and develop the community economy as its adult population increases.

Economic Development

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). The funding provides for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community designed and administered programs.

Capital

Canada has negotiated and signed PSTAs with the Selkirk First Nation for capital resources.

In 1996 the Selkirk First Nation received \$200,000 in Green Plan Funding for a deep well, purchase of a water delivery truck, construction of a pump house, warehouse repair and conversion of 10 housing units for water delivery services.

First Nation Government

Through the PSTA negotiated under their Self Government Agreement, Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to carry out its responsibilities to membership and to provide a central administrative base.

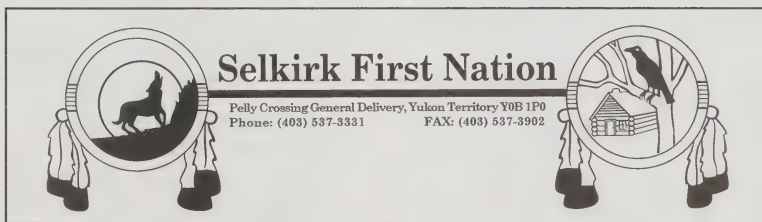
Community Infrastructure

As part of the Self Government/Land Claims settlement, Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Selkirk First Nation for the delivery of community infrastructure services such as road maintenance,

community buildings, and municipal and fire protection services.

The community of Pelly Crossing has 50 private well/septic tank systems. The First Nation provides a trucked water delivery service to the citizens by means of a new water treatment plant. There is no reservoir.

Garbage is hauled to the local dump by the First Nation for members. The First Nation Council is considering upgrading and re-designing the village layout for increased efficiency, safety and health.



TA'AN KWACH'AN COUNCIL

Whitehorse, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 5359
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 4Z2
Phone No.: (867) 668-3613
Fax No.: (867) 667-4295

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Southern Tutchone Tribal Council (STTC)

GENERAL

The traditional members of the Ta'an Kwach'an Council were based in the Ta'an Mun (Lake LeBarge) area. They frequented areas around Whitehorse and Lake Laberge, and along the Yukon River as far south as Hootilinqa. They had a traditional government system headed by Chief Jim Boss at the time when non-native first established themselves in the area.

Until 1956, the LeBerge 08 Band, now the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, was an entity recognized by the department and its Indian Agents. Then the department amalgamated traditional members of the Kwanlin Dun, based in the Marsh Lake area, with the Ta'an Kwach'an. The two groups occupied, harvested, and used as a main meeting place the area now known as the City of Whitehorse.

Traditional members of the Kwanlin Dun, together with transient members of other First Nations who later moved to the Whitehorse area, were loosely affiliated and formed the Whitehorse Indian Band.

Following the amalgamation, the LeBerge 08 Band was considered part of this band, which was later named the Kwanlin Dun First Nation.

In the late 1980's, the Ta'an Kwach'an re-established its traditional government body under the name Ta'an Kwach'an Council, putting their hereditary Chief and Council back into power. They have also received recognition from the Council of Yukon Nations as a Yukon First Nation.

The Ta'an Kwach'an Council is not currently recognized as a Band under the guidelines of the Indian Act, and therefore the department is, at this time, unable to devolve administration of programs and services directly to them. The Umbrella Final Agreement however, recognized the Ta'an Kwach'an Council as a separate First Nation entity. At the present time, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council is negotiating a separate land claim and self-government agreement under the terms of the Umbrella Final Agreement.

The Ta'an Kwach'an Council has been actively negotiating with the Kwanlin Dun First Nation on the issue of separation. On January 22, 1998 members of both First Nations will vote on a memorandum which will re-establish the Ta'an Kwach'an as a legal entity. The agreement includes a sharing accord between the two First Nations, and joint management of resources through management boards.

TAKU RIVER TLINGIT FIRST NATION

Atlin, B.C.

ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 132
Atlin, B.C.
V0W 1A0
Phone No.: (250) 651-7615
Fax No.: (250) 651-7714

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Tlingit - West Coast

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Tlingit Tribal Council

GENERAL

Atlin is in northern British Columbia, approximately 100 km. south of Jakes Corner in the Yukon. It has a population of approximately 500. The town of Atlin has existed since 1898 with mining as its prime economic base. The beautiful mountains surrounding Big Atlin Lake make this community one of the most scenic areas of the region. Its nickname is "Little Switzerland."

The Tlingit people came from the Alaskan coast into Teslin, Atlin and Carcross - and had some influence in the Tahltan area of B.C. The original Tlingits travelled from Juneau, Alaska along the Taku River basin in search of fur to trade with the Russian traders of Alaska. Some of the Tlingits settled in the Atlin area. The Tlingit traditions and culture brought over from the coastal region are strongly practised by the Atlin people.

The Taku River Tlingits were known as the Atlin-Teslin Indian Band until a separation in 1964. Teslin people joined the Teslin Tlingit Council. Most Atlin-area First Nation people remained with the Taku River Tlingits, although some joined the Carcross/Tagish First Nations.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Spokesperson, an Advisor, and four Clan Directors. Both the Spokesperson and Clan Directors follow the advice and direction of the Elders Council.

QUORUM

Spokesperson and one Wolf Director and one Crow Director and any three Directors.

METHOD OF ELECTION

Under the Clan system, all directors are appointed by their respective clans, no elections are held.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The Taku River Tlingit First Nation has developed its own membership code. Inquiries regarding membership should therefore be referred to the First Nation's office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

Active talks with respect to land claims/self-government negotiation with both federal and B.C. governments are being held

pursuant to the B.C. Treaty Commission process.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

M.L.A.: The Honourable Mike Scott,
Reform, Skeena Riding

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Power is supplied by B.C. Hydro from a diesel generating station in Atlin. A hydro transmission line runs past the reserve.

MAIN RESUPPLY: A 100-kilometre all-weather gravel road joins Atlin to the Alaska Highway at Jakes Corner, Yukon.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Volunteer fire department, pumper truck with 6,300 litre water tank.

POLICE: RCMP detachment in Atlin

POST OFFICE: Mail is delivered three times a week. The post office has a box service. A local delivery firm also provides a courier service.

BANK: Banking is done in Whitehorse.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: The facilities in the community include: 3 motel/hotels; 1 service station/garage; 2 private campgrounds; 1 government maintained campground; 1 laundromat; 1 liquor store and 3 cafe/restaurants, 2 bed and breakfast establishments, 2 grocery stores, one general store, government office and a visitor information centre.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Longhouse
Administration Complex
Water Treatment Building
Warehouse
Radio
Education Office
Daycare Facility
Community Centre
31 Houses

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 1,278.2 Ha. - in and around Atlin
LAND SET ASIDE: 1,569 Ha. - in and around Atlin
TITLED PARCELS : 7 lots
RESERVES: 10

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL 1997 - (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	19
On Reserve	93
Off Reserve	<u>239</u>
Total	351

119 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employment is almost completely seasonal, with the exception of First Nation office work. Many First Nation members leave the area in order to find work in the Yukon or southern B.C.

**PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE
FIRST NATION and
FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT
AFFAIRS**

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Service

Social Development

The First Nation receives funds from Indian and Inuit Affairs for social assistance. They are funded for one social service worker, and have administered their own social development program for about a dozen years. This has included In-Home Adult Care, and Basic and Special Needs programs.

Education

Students can attend kindergarten to grade 9 in the community. Secondary school students move to Whitehorse or Vancouver to further their education. Indian and Inuit Affairs provides funding to the First Nation for the position of a Community Education Liaison Coordinator and related costs and services.

First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

Economic Development

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). A \$3.6 million Alternate Funding Arrangement was signed in November of 1992, giving the First Nation more control over the setting and administering of its finances. The Taku River Tlingit Clan Directors are now responsible for developing and managing a full range of programs for its members, such as social development, capital works, community services, financial management, and in education, guidance counselling services and the provision of student supplies.

Programs provided for include: subsistence, traditional, cultural and elders' activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community-designed and administered programs.

Taku River Tlingit Holdings Co. is the economic development arm of the First Nation. It plays a major role in the First Nation economy, and in the preparation for a land claims settlement. Businesses held by the company include a sawmill and construction division and salmon fishing on the Taku River; also they administer non-profit maintenance and social development programs. For a small commission, the company will help independent small businesses.

Capital

The Taku River Tlingit First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

Garbage disposal is in an open dump. The First Nation provides a collection service by truck to members.

First Nation Government

Funding is provided to the First Nation to administer its responsibilities to the general membership and to provide a central administrative base.

Community Infrastructure

Community Infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The Taku River Tlingits receive funding for municipal and fire protection services, as well as for the maintenance of community buildings and roads.

Water delivery service is supplied to some First Nation residences since the First Nation constructed a pumphouse with a water intake system from the lake, completed in 1993. The intake system and pumphouse also includes a water treatment system; the construction projects used \$400,000 in Green Plan funding, which also provided a water truck for delivery.

TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL

Teslin, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 133

Teslin, Yukon

Y0A 1B0

Phone No.: (867) 390-2532

Fax No.: (867) 390-2204

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Tlingit

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Tlingit Tribal Council

GENERAL

The present location of the Teslin Indian village was a traditional summer camp site. Tlingit people came over from the Alaskan coast into Teslin, Carcross and Atlin, B.C. and had some influence in the Tahltan area of B.C. The original Tlingits travelled from Juneau, Alaska along the Taku River basin in search of fur to trade with the Russian traders of Alaska. Some of the Tlingits settled in the Teslin area at Nisutlin Bay around the Taylor and Drury trading post site.

After the Alaska Highway was built in 1942, the community of Teslin became more permanent.

The Tlingit tradition and culture, brought over from the coastal region, is strongly practised and taught today by the Teslin Tlingit Council citizens. This tradition

influenced the change in the structure of the First Nation government and elections.

Teslin Tlingit Council citizens live mainly in the southwest section of the village of Teslin, although the population has expanded into the Fox Point area with the arrival of Bill C-31 members. The Teslin community has a resident population of 478, according to 1997 population figures.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Clan leadership is composed of a Chief and five Councillors

QUORUM

Any four members of Council

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. In 1988 the Tlingit Council passed a constitution which included adoption of a more traditional system involving the elders of the five clans. The elders each pick a representative at the Council level. The chosen five appoint a Chief and Deputy Chief, and the remaining three are councillors. The last election was held in early March 1996.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The membership code is under First Nation control. Inquiries regarding membership should therefore be directed to the First Nation's office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF- GOVERNMENT

The Teslin Tlingit Council completed negotiations with the Governments of Canada and Yukon of its Final Land Claim and Self Government Agreements* on November 6, 1992. Ratification of both Agreements has been approved by all Clans within the Teslin Tlingit Council. Both Agreements were officially signed by David Keenan, Chief of the Teslin Tlingit Council, Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian and Northern Development, and John Ostashek, Yukon Government Leader, on May 29, 1993. Legislation passed the House of Commons on June 22, 1994 and received Senate approval in July. Legislation came into effect on February 14, 1995.

(* See **Appendix** for Highlights of the Teslin Tlingit Council's Agreements)

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Ross River Southern Lakes Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Dave Keenan

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. distributes main power from Whitehorse Dam. Generator backup.

MAIN RESUPPLY: All-weather paved Alaska Highway.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Volunteer fire department with pumper, hoses, ladders, etc. St. John Ambulance First Aid and CPR is taught to fire fighters.

POLICE: RCMP detachment, one corporal, two constables, cars and boat. Teslin has

always been strongly supportive of the Tribal Police Program, and may become a participant.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: All facilities are available, including two motels, gas stations, tourist commercial campgrounds and food outlets. The First Nation operates a coin laundromat and showers servicing its members and the public.

BANK: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce commutes to the community every second Wednesday for services between 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Buildings 2
Long House (Cultural Centre)
Workshop
Washroom
Healing Centre
Recreation Centre
Drop-In Centre
Warehouse
119 Houses

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 187.68 Ha. - in and around Teslin

LAND SET ASIDE: None - settled and transferred with Land Claims Settlement*

PARCELS SET ASIDE: None

RESERVES: 3

*(See Highlights of Final Agreement in **Appendix**)

**POPULATION FIGURES
AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region
(STATUS ONLY)**

On Settlement Land	33
On Crown Land	26
On Reserve	185
Off Reserve	268
Total	512

185 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

**PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE
FIRST NATION under the Programs and
Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA)
negotiated in Self Government Agreement.**

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government
- * Community Infrastructure and Service

Social Development

The Teslin Tlingit Council administers funds for social assistance through the (PSTA) negotiated with the Government of Canada. This has included In-Home Adult Care and Basic and Special Needs programs.

Education

Grades K-9 are offered at the **Teslin School** in the community. Students move to Whitehorse to complete high school. About 20% of First Nation members complete grade 12. The First Nation is funded under their PSTA for the position of a Community

Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) and for related costs and services.

Status First Nation members may apply for post secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse. As of the 1991/92 term, five Bill C-31 members were being funded. The First Nation plans to focus on obtaining further education and training programs for members, to meet administration demands and other related job needs resulting from their land claim settlement.

Economic Development

Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the First Nation. This applies to the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) and provides for include economic development enterprises as well as subsistence, elders and traditional and cultural activities. The goal is to develop long-term employment for First Nation members through community-designed and administered programs.

In Teslin, the largest employer is the First Nation office. Most businesses in and around Teslin are owned by non-aboriginals. The First Nation has committed itself to a restructuring of its economic development system. The plan is to establish a First Nation-owned company to organize First Nation businesses and opportunities, offer assistance to individuals opening small businesses, and to provide training for management positions. The First Nation is also considering Teslin's tourism potential.

The increase in the Teslin First Nation size and growth due to Bill C-31 members may aid the economy - the market size is growing and many new members are bringing skills and experience to the First Nation.

Capital

Capital funding for Canada's Green Plan Initiative and Bill C-31 housing program is provided through the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs for the self-governing First Nations.

The Canadian Government has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Teslin Tlingit Council for all other capital resources.

First Nation Government

Through the PSTA negotiated under their Final Agreement, Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to members and to provide a central administrative base. Funding is also provided for Indian Management Development, to enable the First Nation to develop Comprehensive Management Development plans and to provide specific management training and development for Chief and Council, senior First Nation management, First Nation staff and the First Nation electorate. The First Nation Council makes major decisions as a group, and does not use a portfolio system.

Community Infrastructure

As part of the Self Government/Land Claims settlement, Canada has negotiated and signed a Financial Transfer Agreement

with the Teslin Tlingit Council for the delivery of community infrastructure services such as road maintenance, community buildings, and for municipal and fire protection services.

The First Nation organizes delivery of chlorinated water by truck from a well at the townsite. Some First Nation residences receive a piped water supply from private wells.

Sewage collection facilities for most of the village and Reserve #13 is through a piped sewer system. Mains drain to two lift stations with holding tanks; trucks take sewage to two anaerobic and two aerobic cells with capacities for 2.5 million and 3.5 million litres. Some First Nation homes have outhouses instead of being on the town system, although plans have been finalized for an extension of the existing system.

Garbage disposal is in an open dump with truck collection supplied by the First Nation for its members.

LEGAL STATUS OF COMMUNITY

Teslin is incorporated under the Municipal Act as a village with an elected council, on which some First Nation members sit.

TR'ON DEK HWECH'IN

Dawson City, Yukon

ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 599
Dawson City, Yukon
Y0B 1G0
Phone No.: (403) 993-5385
Fax No.: (403) 993-6553

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Han

GENERAL

The Han people have inhabited their traditional territory in the central western Yukon and eastern Alaska for several thousand years. Their lands span the Yukon River from the mouth of the Stewart River to the mouth of the Klondike River, including Yukon River tributaries back to their headwaters.

The Han's first contact with European people occurred between the late 1700's and 1840's at the time when Russian and Hudson Bay fur traders were founding trading posts. As explorers, missionaries, and prospectors began to move into the Territory, the Han moved closer to trading posts and missions.

In 1887, a townsite was established at the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike Rivers on what was originally the site of a summer fish camp. The discover of gold in 1896 gold discoveries brought thousands of prospectors and grubstakers. By the turn of the century, this influx had pushed the

aboriginal people from their village at the mouth of the Klondike River to the Moosehide Reserve, three miles from Dawson City.

In 1898 Dawson became the capital of Yukon, a city of 40,000 people with telephone, water and steamboat services. When the gold rush came to an end in 1899, 8,000 people left Dawson. Major mining operations eventually took over most Klondike gold beds. Higher gold prices caused a minor boom in the 1930s. The last dredge was shut down in 1965. By then, the Yukon's economic centre had already shifted to Whitehorse, which became its capital in 1953. Dawson experienced a devastating flood in May 1980, prompting the construction of a dike along the Yukon River.

Moosehide and the surrounding area was designated a reserve in 1902. In the late 1950s the declining population in Moosehide caused the Han people to move to Dawson where they have become an integral part of the community. Today Moosehide is used mainly as a summer camp and traditional ceremonial area.

The city's population is 2,151 according to June 1997 figures. First Nation members make up approximately 28% of the population. Dawson is a bustling tourist centre in the summer, supported by placer mining activity in the surrounding area. It is also a mineral exploration service and

supply centre. The Tr'on dek Hwech'in take an active role in the community and in the development of the town.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and four Councillors

QUORUM

Any three members of Council

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system extending franchise to band members 16 years of age and older. The terms for Chief and Council are three years; the last election was held on November 27, 1993.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The First Nation has applied for and received funding to develop their membership code. Inquiries regarding membership should be referred to the First Nations' office.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF GOVERNMENT

Tr'on dek Hwech'in First Nation is currently negotiating Land Claims and Self-Government Agreements.

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Klondike Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Peter Jenkins, Yukon Party

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: Yukon Electrical Co. Ltd. operates a diesel generating plant in Dawson.

MAIN TRANSPORTATION: All-weather Klondike Highway

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Dawson Fire Fighter's Association with 20 volunteers and two pumpers. First Aid and CPR is taught to fire fighters. The City provides fire protection to First Nation members living within city limits.

POLICE: RCMP detachment, one sergeant, four constables, vehicles and boat.

POST OFFICE: Mail is trucked in three times a week.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: are many and varied - including hotels, motels, gas stations, tourist entertainment, commercial campgrounds and food outlets within the Town of Dawson City.

BANK: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Community Cookhouse
Cultural Centre
Administration Building
Carpentry Shop
Warehouse
Heating Plant
84 Houses
Daycare

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 406.3 Ha. at Moosehide Creek Reserve 2 & 2b
LAND SET ASIDE: 366.2013 Ha. In and around Dawson

PARCELS OF LAND SET ASIDE: 1 parcel
+ 77 lots
RESERVES: 2

POPULATION FIGURES

AS OF APRIL, 1997 - Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	171
On Reserve	3
Off Reserve	<u>396</u>
Total	570

282 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The First Nation is concerned with high unemployment among its members. Much of the work is seasonal, especially in the fisheries and tourism sectors. Therefore, long-term employment is one of the main objectives of the First Nation in the next few years, through Chief Isaac Incorporated, its economic development arm, or through mining ventures in the area.

In September 1997, Tr'on dek Hwech'in First Nation and Viceroy signed a socio-economic agreement for the Brewery Creek mining project. The agreement will provide the First Nation with approximately one million dollars over the next several years, as well as training and employment opportunities for jobs. Last winter, the company trained several first nation machine operators, and the Trondek Hwech'in have the contract to operate a bus service from town to the mine, which is located off the Dempster Highway. The mine is expected to operate for about 8 more years.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

-
- * Social Development
 - * Education
 - * Economic Development
 - * Capital
 - * Community Infrastructure and Service O & M
 - * Political Leadership

Social Development

The First Nation receives and administers funds for social assistance. They have administered their own social assistance program for the last decade. This has included In-home Adult Care, Basic Needs, Special Needs and Elders' Fuel. The First Nation has used social assistance funds to employ status members on projects to upgrade community buildings at the Moosehide Reserve.

Education

Students can attend grades K-12 at **The Robert Service School** in Dawson City. Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the First Nation for a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) position and other related costs and services. First Nation members may apply for post-secondary educational support from the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building, on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

Economic Development

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). They provide for subsistence, elders' and traditional and cultural activities, as well as economic development enterprises. The goal is to develop long-term employment for members through community- designed and administered programs.

Other revenues for First Nation Economic programs are supplied by federal and territorial government agencies or by the First Nation's company, **Chief Isaac Incorporated**.

Chief Isaac Incorporated controls all of the First Nation's businesses. The Chief and Council members are the company's Chair and Board of Directors.

Han Fisheries, which is also owned by Chief Isaac Inc., operates from its processing plant on the Yukon River, employs primarily First Nation members. The fisheries operates from five to six months a year. Fish are processed for 10-12 weeks during the summer and fall. Processed frozen salmon is marketed in the U.S. through a fish broker. Salmon roe is also processed and sold in American and Japanese markets. Up to 20 First Nation members are employed during peak fishing seasons.

In the summer of 1992, **Han Natural Products Ltd.** gained national and international attention with its mushroom-harvesting venture. Chief Isaac led and developed this activity to include exports to Japan, Europe and other interested buyers.

The company expects to expand into other natural products.

Investments in Whitehorse businesses also provide opportunities to sell technology and to set up employee training programs.

Capital

The Tr'on dek Hwech'in provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to the First Nation membership and to provide a central administrative base.

Community Infrastructure

Some First Nation residences receive a piped supply of chlorinated water from the city system. Outlying homes use private wells. The sewage system consists of piped collection, which is microscreened and drained into the Yukon River.

Garbage is disposed of in a dump, with collection done by local contractors hired by the Town.

Political Leadership

The political leadership is organized into the portfolio system. Chief and Councillors have responsibility for various areas including First Nations Affairs/Political, Land Claims, Social Programs, Finance, Housing, Economic Development, Town of Dawson City.



VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION

Old Crow, Yukon

ADDRESS:

Box 94

Old Crow, Yukon

Y0B 1N0

Phone No.: (867) 966-3213

Fax No.: (867) 966-3800

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Gwitchin Nation of Athapaskan descent.

GENERAL

The existence of people in Old Crow has been traced back 30,000 years, and according to archaeological evidence it may be the earliest civilization in North America.

The people in the Old Crow area originally settled at Fort Yukon at the mouth of the Porcupine River in 1840, because of the trading posts on the river. When the Canada/U.S. border was established in 1867, the Vuntut Gwitchin moved to Rampart House, a trading post just inside the border.

The present location of Old Crow, further north from that site, was chosen because of its unique hunting and fishing location, near major spring caribou crossing places - also it had been a gathering spot for families going down the Porcupine to trade. Until the 1950's people wintered in small camps along the river, however, after the building of a store and a public school at Old Crow the present community became a year-round settlement.

The community is about 800 km north of Whitehorse, inside the Arctic Circle. It is accessible only by air, or by boat in summer from Fort Yukon, Alaska and Eagle Plains via the Eagle and Bell River.

Because of its isolation, the community of Old Crow has been somewhat protected from the "outside" influence of western culture. First Nation members have resisted pressures of the more dominant society in an effort to maximize preservation of their way of life.

Statistics from June 1997 show a population of 305 in Old Crow.

A new national park has been created in the Old Crow Flats region, named **Vuntut National Park**. The park's creation was part of the settlement of the Council of First Nations' Comprehensive land claim settlement, signed on May 29, 1993. The park is managed cooperatively with the Vuntut Gwitchin, whose ownership also extends to the Flats outside the park's boundaries.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and four Councillors.

QUORUM

Chief (or Deputy Chief) and two Councillors

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. Franchise is extended to First Nation members age 16 and over. The term for Chief and Council is two years. The last election was held in November 1996.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The First Nation has not yet developed its own membership code.

LAND CLAIMS AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

This First Nation was the first to complete negotiations for First Nation Final and Self Government Agreements* on May 31, 1992. Both Agreements were officially signed by Robert Bruce Jr., Chief of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and John Ostashek, Yukon Government Leader, on May 29, 1993. Legislation came into effect on February 14, 1995.

(* See **Appendix** for **Highlights** of Vuntut Gwitchin's Agreements)

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Vuntut Gwitchin Riding

M.L.A.: Robert Bruce, Speaker of the Yukon Legislative Assembly
Phone: (867) 966-3417

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The Yukon Electrical Company Ltd. supplies power via a diesel generating plant.

MAIN TRANSPORTATION: Supplies are shipped by air freight and mail.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Six volunteers, tanker and pump. Fire fighters are trained in first aid and CPR.

POLICE: RCMP detachment with one corporal, one constable and one native special constable.

POST OFFICE: Mail is flown in three times a week

PUBLIC FACILITIES: Super A Store, Tetlich Bed & Breakfast

BANK: Banking is done through a Toronto Dominion Bank agency office in the Super A building. It is staffed by local residents and its hours of operation are Tuesday-Friday from 12:30-2:30 p.m. The TD bank has an agency operation contract with the Vuntut Gwitchin whereby the First Nation provides the people and the bank supplies the technology. Withdrawals through Interac will be possible, as will satellite banking and preauthorized bill payments.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building
Community Hall
Workshop
Warehouse
2 Garages
130 Housing Units

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: 0

LAND SET ASIDE: None - transferred with Land Claims Settlement*

PARCELS SET ASIDE: None, Transferred with Settlement*

*(See Highlights of Final Agreement in Appendix)

POPULATION FIGURES

AS OF APRIL ,1997 - Yukon Region (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	2
On Settlement Land	246
Off Reserve	<u>184</u>
Total	432

111 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The Vuntut Gwitchin have a traditional subsistence-based economy. The main income is from seasonal jobs: hunting and fishing in and around Old Crow. Muskrat trapping is done from April 'til June of each spring. Several members have full-time jobs with VGFN and YTG.

Wage employment is derived from First Nation-run businesses and projects, seasonal government jobs, housing construction and maintenance, First Nation administration, janitorial and Super A store positions.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION under the Programs and Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA) negotiated in Self Government Agreement

- * Social Development
- * Education
- * Economic Development
- * Capital
- * First Nation Government

- * Community Infrastructure and Service

Social Development

The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation administers funds for social assistance through the PSTA negotiated with the Government of Canada. It has administered its own program for more than a decade, which has included In-Home Adult Care, and Basic and Special Needs programs. The First Nation is also funded for one half-time social service worker position.

In July of 1991, a vote was taken to prohibit alcohol in the community.

Education

The **Chief Zzeh Gittlit School**, operated by the Yukon Government, offers grades K-10. Most students move to Whitehorse to complete high school. Under their PSTA, the First Nation is funded for the position of a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) and for related costs and services.

Status First Nation members may apply for post-secondary education support through the First Nations' Education Program in the Council of Yukon First Nations' Building on Nisutlin Drive in Whitehorse.

The First Nation plans to focus on training and further education for members, to meet demands in administration and other employment related to implementation of the agreements.

Economic Development

The First Nation will set up the Vuntut Gwitchin Economic Development Corporation to oversee the Community's economic future.

Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, which applies to the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). Programs provided for include economic development enterprises, as well as subsistence, traditional and cultural activities. The goal is to develop community-designed and administered programs.

Capital

Capital funding for Canada's Green Plan Initiative and Bill C-31 housing program is provided through the Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs for the first four self-governing First Nations.

Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation for all other capital resources.

First Nation Government

Through the PSTA signed under their Land Claim/Self Government Agreements, Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation Council to administer its responsibilities to members, and to provide a central administrative base.

Funding for Indian Management Development and Comprehensive Community Based Planning is provided to enable the First Nation to develop Comprehensive Management Development plans, and to provide specific management training and development for Chief and Council, senior First Nation management, staff and the electorate.

Community Infrastructure

As part of the Self Government/Land Claims settlement, Canada has negotiated and signed a PSTA with the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation for the delivery of community infrastructure services such as road maintenance, community buildings, and municipal and fire protection services.

An artesian water well was drilled in 1982, yielding good water. Treated water is delivered 3 times a week to households by truck. A municipal service agreement has been entered into with YTG and the First Nation to provide this service.



WHITE RIVER FIRST NATION

Beaver Creek, Yukon

ADDRESS:

General Delivery
Beaver Creek, Yukon
Y0B 1A0
Phone No.: (867) 862-7802
Fax No.: (867) 862-7806

CULTURAL AFFILIATION

Upper Tanana/Southern Tutchone.

GENERAL

The area has been inhabited for over 10,000 years and was a homeland for the Upper Tanana people who made stop-over camps during seasonal migration in search of food. Beaver Creek was originally a camp for teams surveying the Canada-Alaska border from 1907 to 1913.

Prospectors soon followed, and mining remains of major interest today. In 1955 the Canada Customs post was built approximately 32 kms. from the border by road, a post office was established in 1958 and the community began to develop.

Today, Beaver Creek is strongly linked to the Alaska Highway and the seasonal stream of tourists generated by the highway. The Highway had an enormous impact on the native population, which is only being recounted in the recent past. The town is mainly non-native with a total June 1997 population of 116.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The First Nation leadership is composed of a Chief and four Councillors

QUORUM

Any two members of Council

METHOD OF ELECTION

Custom election system. All members living in the Yukon over 16 years of age are eligible to vote in the White River elections. Terms are two years in length. The last election was held on September 29, 1996.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

The White River First Nation does not control its own membership code.

LAND CLAIMS and SELF-GOVERNMENT

Negotiations have commenced for the First Nation's Final and Self-Government Agreements, within the framework of the Umbrella Final Agreement

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON TERRITORY - Kluane Riding

M.L.A.: The Honourable Gary McRobb,
NDP

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELECTRICITY: The community is supplied with power by diesel generators

MAIN RESUPPLY: The paved all-weather Alaska Highway

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Beaver Creek has a fire chief and volunteers serving the community with a pumper truck and a 6,819 litre tanker; 4,546 litre tank in fire hall.

POLICE: The Beaver Creek area has an RCMP detachment of one corporal and one constable.

POST OFFICE: Mail is delivered to the community three times a week.

PUBLIC FACILITIES: four motel/campgrounds, two restaurants, and three service stations.

BANKS: The Toronto Dominion Bank operates twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays for 2-hour durations. Hours of operation differ from summer to winter.

CURRENT INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Administration Building
Warehouses
20 Houses
2 Duplexes

FIRST NATION LAND ACREAGE AND STATUS

RESERVE LAND: None
LAND SET ASIDE: 35.174 Ha. - in and around Beaver Creek
PARCELS SET ASIDE: 12 (3 parcels and 7 lots)

POPULATION FIGURES AS OF APRIL, 1997 (STATUS ONLY)

On Crown Land	45
On Reserve	0
Off Reserve	79
Total	124

(There are approximately 239 enrolled beneficiaries, however the figures above represent those who have registered) 52 First Nation members were reinstated under Bill C-31 as of April, 1997.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Some full-time employment is available through the First Nation office, as well as seasonal work in the tourism industry. Many members are self-employed, hunting and trapping for subsistence.

PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FIRST NATION and FUNDED BY INDIAN AND INUIT AFFAIRS

*	Social Development
*	Education
*	Economic Development
*	Capital
*	First Nation Government
*	Community Infrastructure and Service

Social Development

The White River First Nation receives funds from Indian and Inuit Affairs for social assistance. The program includes In-home Adult Care, Elders' Fuel, and Basic and Special Needs Assistance.

Education

Indian and Inuit Affairs funds the First Nation directly for related costs and services and the position of a Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC). Students can attend kindergarten to grade 8 at the **Beaver Creek School** and complete secondary school in Haines Junction or Whitehorse.

Status members may apply for post-secondary education support from the First Nations' Education Program located in the Council of First Nations' Building, Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse.

Economic Development

Beaver Creek is a Canada Customs Port of Entry, and exists primarily as a tourist and transport/communications centre.

The First Nation receives funding under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS). Programs are administered to provide for economic development enterprises, subsistence, elders' needs, and traditional and cultural activities.

A small native crafts store is operated in Beaver Creek.

Capital

The White River First Nation provides housing and a variety of municipal-type services to members. Capital funding is provided through CMHC and the Program Planning and Allocation Unit of Indian and Inuit Affairs. This funding provides for the planning, design and construction of First Nation assets as well as financial resources for the operation and maintenance of these assets.

First Nation Government

Band Support Funding is provided to the First Nation to administer its responsibilities to First Nation membership and to provide a central administrative base.

The Chief and Council have portfolios in the following areas:

Finance and Administration

Education/Economic Development

Land Claims

Health/Social Development

Capital Projects/Infrastructure/O&M

Community Infrastructure

Community infrastructure for First Nations is funded by Indian and Inuit Affairs. The White River First Nation receives funding for maintenance of roads and community buildings, as well as for municipal services and fire protection services.

The water/sewer system at Beaver Creek is a combination of wells and out-houses for some residences and a storage tank with a common septic field for the remainder.

White River First Nation members haul their garbage to the community dump.



APPENDIX

COUNCIL OF YUKON FIRST NATIONS

The original agency dedicated to securing a land claim settlement for Yukon's aboriginal people was the Yukon Native Brotherhood (YNB). Officially incorporated in 1970, YNB represented status and non-status Indians until the non-status Indians in the Territory formed their own organization, the Yukon Association for Non-Status Indians (YANSI) in 1971.

In November 1973, YNB and YANSI agreed to the establishment of a separate negotiating arm whose primary objective was the settlement of land claims for all Yukon Indians. Its name was the Council for Yukon Indians (CYI). YNB and YANSI each had representatives in the CYI, as did each of the then 12 First Nations.

While negotiations proceeded, both the YNB and YANSI continued to occupy themselves with their own responsibilities, however lack of funding plagued both organizations. As a result, in February 1980 at a special Tri-General Assembly of the CYI, YNB and YANSI, a decision was made to amalgamate all three under the name Council for Yukon Indians.

The CYI assumed all of the functions of the 2 former organizations and has continued to fulfill its mandate of negotiating land claims on behalf of the Yukon's First Nations people.

CYFN's membership is about 8,000 people, and it is directed by the leaders of the 14 Yukon First Nations, seven of which have not yet completed their land claims agreements. The CYFN also provides advisory and advocacy services to First Nations.

Since March 1989, proposals to re-structure the Council for Yukon Indians (as it was then called) after land claims have been under active consideration by Yukon First Nation leadership. The dominant issue has been how a central agency will best serve the interests of all Yukon First Nations.

Following a General Assembly in August 1995, the CYI was named "The Council of Yukon First Nations." A new constitution was adopted reflecting the mandate of the central body to support Yukon First Nations in concluding and implementing their land claim agreements as well as the inherent right to self-government. The new constitution was signed by 11 of the 14 Yukon First Nations, and a resolution permits those 3 First Nations to sign at their discretion.

Shirley Adamson was elected Grand Chief of the Council of Yukon First Nations during the 16th Annual General Assembly held in August 1996. Her term of office is 3 years.

A CHRONOLOGY OF THE CYI* COMPREHENSIVE LAND CLAIM

*CYI's name change did not occur until 1995, after Comprehensive Land Claims and the UFA

1970 - The Yukon Native Brotherhood (YNB) is formed to represent status Indians;

1972 - The Yukon Association for Non-Status Indians (YANSI) is formed;

1973 - The Council for Yukon Indians is established late in 1973 to represent status and non-status Indians in the negotiation of a joint land claim. CYI's land claim proposal, entitled Together Today For Our Children Tomorrow, is accepted by the Federal government for negotiation;

1980 - YNB, YANSI and CYI amalgamate to form a single entity, and retain the name Council for Yukon Indians. An Agreement-In-Principle (AIP) is reached between CYI and Federal and Territorial negotiators. In 1984 the AIP is ratified by the Federal and Territorial governments, but rejected by the CYI General Assembly. Insufficient land quantum, the requirement for extinguishment of aboriginal title, and the absence of provisions respecting self-government are the primary reasons for its rejection;

1985 - The Federal Task Force to Review Comprehensive Claims Policy recommends changes to the federal land claim negotiating policy, including a recommendation of concurrent negotiation of self-government agreements;

1986 - The federal government announces its revised Comprehensive Land Claims Policy, incorporating many of the recommendations of the Federal Task Force Report, including provision for the negotiation of self-government agreements;

1987 - As negotiations resume, a new mandate for the negotiation of the CYI Comprehensive Claim is issued by Federal Cabinet under the revised Comprehensive Claim Policy;

1989 - In March, a new Agreement-In-Principle is ratified by Canada, the Yukon Territory and the Council for Yukon Indians. Its provisions include:

- \$242.6 million in compensation;
- 16,000 square miles of Settlement land over which aboriginal title is retained;
- participation on various land and wildlife boards and committees;
- subject matter to be addressed during the negotiation of individual Yukon First Nation Self-Government Agreements;

- federal ratification also provides for the negotiation of an Umbrella Final Agreement or UFA to include provisions common to all Yukon First Nations.

1991 - The Yukon First Nations ratify, in principle, the Umbrella Final Land Claim Agreement at their General Assembly;

1992 - On May 30, 1992 the UFA is initialled by negotiators for CYI, the Federal and Territorial governments. The UFA provides a common framework for the negotiation of separate land claim and self-government agreements with each of the 14 Yukon First Nations;

- Between May and November, negotiators initial Final Land Claim and Self-Government Agreements on behalf of Canada, Yukon Territory, and the first four Yukon First Nations (Vuntut Gwitchin Tribal Council, Na-Cho Ny'a'k Dun First Nation; Champagne and Aishihik First Nations; and Teslin Tlingit Council);

1993 - On March 17, the Yukon Territory Legislative Assembly passes enabling legislation, ratifying Yukon First Nation Final Land Claim and Self-Government Agreements. The bills, entitled An Act Approving Yukon Land Claim Final Agreements and First Nations (Yukon) Self-Government Act are accompanied by the Vuntut Gwitchin Agreements;

In May, The Vuntut Gwitchin Tribal Council ratifies its Final Land Claim and Self-Government Agreements. It is the last of the first four Yukon First Nations to complete ratification, clearing the way for Federal Cabinet approval of the drafting of Yukon Land Claim and Self-Government legislation for presentation to Parliament.

On May 29th, at an outdoor ceremony in Whitehorse, the political representatives of Canada, the Yukon Territory, and four Yukon First Nations officially meet to sign the First Nation Final (Land Claim) and Self-Government Agreements. Canada and the Yukon Territory, together with the Chair of the Council for Yukon Indians, sign the Umbrella Final Agreement.

The federal Yukon Land Claims Settlement Act and Yukon First Nations Self-Government Act receive Royal Assent on July 7, 1994, but neither act has been proclaimed into force. The land claim agreements require that a third piece of federal legislation, the Yukon Surface Rights Board Act, be in force at the time the settlement and self-government legislation is proclaimed.

Surface Rights legislation receives Royal Assent on December 15, 1994. Legislation (Bills C-33, C-35 and C-55) was proclaimed by Order-in Council on February 14, 1995.

1997 - In July the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and Selkirk First Nation signed their Land Claim and Self Government Agreements, bringing the number of agreements with the 14 Yukon First Nations to a total of six.

information

Aboriginal Self-Government

November 1997

Aboriginal self-government is thousands of years old

First Nations and Inuit had been practising their own forms of government for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans in Canada. These governments covered a wide variety of systems. First Nations and Inuit shaped their forms of government to meet their particular needs — needs defined by their own economic, social and geographic conditions. Groups' individual cultures, and their spiritual beliefs tied to their ancestral lands, have also been important sources of inspiration for their forms of government.

First Nations and Inuit can trace their systems of government back to the beginnings of their oral history. They see their powers of government as essential to their existence. This is what is meant by the inherent right of self-government for Aboriginal peoples. The right to govern themselves has always belonged to them, as far back as memory goes.

Colonial policies weakened Aboriginal governments' authority

When European colonists arrived in Canada, they established their own colonial governments and signed treaties with many First Nations peoples. The aim of these treaties was to ensure friendship between First Nations and European colonists, and to share lands and resources.

The colonial governments gradually began to establish laws and policies aimed at assimilating Aboriginal peoples into non-Aboriginal society. The colonial governments, and after 1867 the Government of Canada, passed laws encouraging Aboriginal

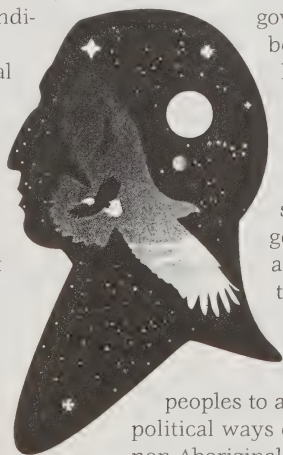
peoples to adopt the social and political ways of the mainstream, non-Aboriginal population. As part of this process of assimilation, the federal government set up a system of residential schools for First Nations and Inuit children that operated until the 1970s. At these schools, Aboriginal

children were forbidden to speak their own languages, or follow their cultural and spiritual traditions.

These federal government policies of assimilation and control had terrible effects. Traditional Aboriginal lifestyles were threatened. The authority of Aboriginal governments weakened. Over the past few centuries, Aboriginal peoples have become one of the most disadvantaged groups in Canada. People living in Aboriginal communities still have one of the lowest standards of living in the country.

Aboriginal self-government is being re-established

Since the late 1940s, Aboriginal leaders have struggled to help their people regain their rightful place in Canadian federation. They want recognition of the right to govern themselves and partnerships with the federal and provincial governments. The federal and provincial governments respect these ideas. By re-establishing their own governments, Aboriginal peoples will once again be able to control their own lives and lands. They will also be in a better position to continue the process of social and spiritual healing in their communities.



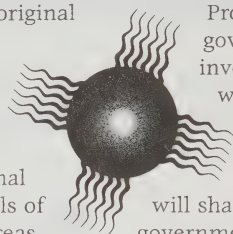
The federal government recognizes the need to strengthen the partnership relationship between Aboriginal peoples and governments in Canada. The Government of Canada believes that Aboriginal peoples have the right to govern themselves and decide on matters that affect their communities.

In August 1995, the federal government undertook a process to negotiate practical arrangements to make Aboriginal self-government a reality. This process is based on

the idea that the inherent right of Aboriginal self-government already exists in the Canadian Constitution.

The federal government consulted widely with Aboriginal leaders at the national, regional and local levels in developing this process for self-government negotiations. Under the federal approach, Aboriginal groups negotiate the details of self-government. These areas include education, language and culture, police services, health

care and social services, housing, property rights, the enforcement of Aboriginal laws and adoption and child welfare.



Provincial and territorial governments will be involved in negotiations when their interests or jurisdictions are affected.

Aboriginal groups will shape their own forms of government to suit their particular historical, cultural, political and economic circumstances.

The Principles of Self-Government

Under the federal approach for self-government negotiations, all self-government arrangements will be based on the following key principles:

- The inherent right is an existing Aboriginal right recognized and affirmed under the Canadian Constitution.
- Self-government will be exercised within the existing Canadian Constitution. Canada's recognition of self-government does not mean sovereignty in the international sense. Aboriginal peoples will continue to be citizens of Canada and the province or territory where they live. However, they may exercise varying degrees of jurisdiction and/or authority.
- The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* will apply fully to Aboriginal governments as it does to all other governments in Canada. The current provisions of the Charter that respect the unique Aboriginal and treaty rights of Aboriginal peoples will continue to apply.
- All federal funding for self-government will come from the reallocation of existing resources.
- Where all parties agree, rights in self-government agreements may be protected in new treaties under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. They may also be protected through additions to existing treaties, or as part of comprehensive land claims agreements.
- Federal, provincial, territorial and Aboriginal laws must work in harmony. Certain laws of overriding federal and provincial importance, such as the Criminal Code, will prevail.
- The interests of all Canadians will be taken into account as agreements are negotiated.

Aboriginal peoples will determine the pace at which self-government arrangements proceed. Putting the arrangements in place will of course take time. The process will require intense local or regional negotiations between Aboriginal peoples, the federal government and the provincial or territorial government concerned.

The re-establishment of Aboriginal self-government will enable Aboriginal peoples to regain control of their own destinies and operate as full partners in the Canadian federation.

DEFINITIONS

Aboriginal peoples: The descendants of the original inhabitants of North America. The Canadian Constitution recognizes three groups of Aboriginal people — Indians, Métis people and Inuit. These are three separate peoples with unique heritages, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

Aboriginal self-government: Governments designed, established and administered by Aboriginal peoples.

First Nation: A term that came into common usage in the 1970s to replace the word "Indian," which many people found offensive. Although the term First Nation is widely used, no legal definition of it exists. Among its uses, the term "First Nations peoples" refers to the Indian people in Canada, both Status and Non-Status. Many Indian people have also adopted the term "First Nation" to replace the word "band" in the name of their community.

Inuit: An Aboriginal people in northern Canada, who live above the tree line in the Northwest Territories, and in Northern Quebec and Labrador. The word means "people" in the Inuit language — Inuktitut. The singular of Inuit is Inuk.

Publications and Public Enquiries

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H4

(819) 997-0380

www.inac.gc.ca

QS-6119-005-EE-A1



BACKGROUNDERS

An Overview

Umbrella Final Agreement

Yukon First Nations Final (Land Claim) Agreements

- Champagne and Aishihik First Nation
- First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun
- Teslin Tlingit Council
- Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

Yukon First Nations Self-Government Agreements

- Highlights of Self-Government Agreements
- Aboriginal Self-Government

AN OVERVIEW

Introduction

Comprehensive claims negotiations are intended to accommodate the interests of Aboriginal Peoples, governments and third parties. Comprehensive claims settlements receive constitutional protection under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Background

The Council for Yukon Indians' (CYI) claim, entitled "*Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow*", was accepted by the federal government for negotiation in 1973. An agreement-in-principle was reached in 1984 and ratified by both the federal and territorial governments, but was rejected by the CYI General Assembly.

In December 1986, a new federal policy on Comprehensive Claims was announced which addressed some of the key concerns of the Yukon First Nations. Negotiation of the Council for Yukon Indians' comprehensive claims resumed in 1987 in accordance with the revised policy. A new agreement-in-principle was accepted by all parties in 1988.

Process

The CYI claims negotiations have focused on the following key elements:

- An umbrella final agreement (UFA), which provides the framework for First Nation Final Agreement negotiations;
- Individual Yukon First Nation final agreements (YFNFAs), which incorporate provisions of the umbrella final agreement and address the specific circumstances of each Yukon First Nation;
- Self-government agreements;
- Implementation Plans for the Agreements.

The UFA was approved by the CYI General Assembly. Yukon First Nation Final and Self-Government Agreements have also been ratified by the Champagne and Aishihik, the Nacho Nyak Dun, the Teslin Tlingit Council, and the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nations. The Yukon and federal governments have ratified all agreements.

Yukoners' Benefits

- Certainty of ownership, and management of lands and resources over a large area of the Yukon;
- Self-government structures whereby the political aspirations of the beneficiaries represented by the four Yukon First Nations will be realized;
- Aboriginal people will have the resources to participate in, and benefit from, economic opportunities;
- Industry will be supported by the resolution of the land question and by the establishment of clear requirements for environmental protection and approval mechanisms.

UMBRELLA FINAL AGREEMENT

DEFINITION: The Umbrella Final Agreement is a framework within which each of the 14 Yukon First Nations will conclude a final claim settlement agreement. All UFA provisions are a part of each First Nation final agreement.

POPULATION: Approximately 8,000 Yukon Aboriginals.

FIRST NATIONS: Carcross/Tagish; Champagne and Aishihik; Tr'on Dek Hwech'in; Kluane; Kwanlin Dun; Liard; Little Salmon/Carmacks; Nacho Nyak Dun; Ross River Dena; Selkirk; Ta'an Kwach'an Council; Teslin Tlingit Council; Vuntut Gwitchin; White River.

Highlights of the Umbrella Final Agreement

Land Title

A total of 41,439 square kilometres (16,000 square miles) of land including Category A land with surface and sub-surface rights and Category B land with surface rights only, but including rights to material such as sand and gravel.

Economy

- \$242.6 million in cash compensation (1989 dollars) to be divided among the 14 First Nations and paid over 15 years, beginning after each final agreement is reached.
- Yukon First Nations will receive full rental revenues from surface leases and royalties from the development of non-renewable resources.
- Full ownership of mines and minerals on lands will enable Yukon First Nations to develop these resources.

Wildlife

Rights to harvest wildlife for subsistence purposes throughout traditional territory; preferential harvesting of some species; exclusive harvesting on Category A land; and approximately 70 per cent of the traplines allocated in traditional territory. Under the direction of the Fish and Wildlife Management Board, a \$3 million joint government-Yukon First Nation trust will be established to restore and enhance wildlife populations and habitat in the Yukon.

Land and Resource Management

Guaranteed at least one third, and as much as two thirds representation on land use planning bodies; one third membership on Yukon Water Board and 50 per cent representation on Development Assessment Board, Surface Rights Board, Territorial Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Renewable Resources Council.

Heritage

Provisions promoting and preserving the culture and heritage of Yukon First Nations. Provisions include ownership of Yukon Aboriginal ethnographic resources, and guaranteed membership on heritage resources and geographical place names boards.

CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATION

Highlights of Final Agreement

Land Title

- Approximately 1230.24 square kilometres (475 square miles) of land with surface and sub-surface title; 1165.49 square kilometres (450 square miles) of land with surface title only, but including rights to material such as sand and gravel; and 31.52 square kilometres (12.17 square miles) of land set aside or reserve.

Economy

- Participation in government employment, contracting and development projects in the traditional territory, including employment opportunities related to heritage sites, parks, forestry, and settlement land surveying.
- Option to acquire up to 25 per cent of royalties held by the Yukon government or its agencies or corporations in future non-renewable resource development and hydro projects in the traditional territory.
- Economic development agreements with the federal government to provide technical and financial assistance for economic development purposes to residents in the Champagne/Aishihik territory.
- Guaranteed participation in commercial freshwater, salmon fishery and sports fishing, adventure travel, forestry, outfitting and campsite operations in the traditional territory.

Wildlife

- Specific moose harvest for subsistence needs.
- Primary consideration in allocation of freshwater fish resources in traditional territory.
- Priority allocation of minimum number of sockeye and chinook salmon in the Alsek River basin.
- Exclusive harvesting rights in Kluane National Park within the Champagne and Aishihik traditional territory.

Land and Resource Management

- A special management area will be established to guide the development and/or management of Kluane National Park and Sha'washe and surrounding area, and joint management of the Tatshenshini River.

Heritage

- Provisions to nominate the Tatshenshini River as a Canadian heritage river.

TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL

Highlights of Final Agreement

Land Title

- Approximately 1230.24 square kilometres (475 square miles) of land with surface and subsurface title; 1165.49 square kilometres (450 square miles) of land with title in surface only, but including rights to material such as sand and gravel; and 33.36 square kilometres (12.88 square miles) of land set aside or reserve.

Economy

- Participation in government employment, contracting and development projects in the traditional territory.
- Option to acquire up to 25 per cent of royalties held by Yukon government or its agencies or corporations in future non-renewable resource development and hydro projects in the traditional territory.
- Guaranteed participation in commercial freshwater and sports fishing, outfitting and commercial wilderness adventure travel; certain employment opportunities for work related to heritage sites, forestry and surveying.

Wildlife

- Specific moose harvest for subsistence needs.
- Primary consideration in allocation of freshwater fish resources in traditional territory.
- Approval needed on any proposed game farming or ranching activities in their traditional territory when Teslin Tlingit harvesting rights may be affected.
- Rights to harvest wildlife and forest resources in Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area.

Land and Resource Management

- Nisutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area will be established. A joint management plan will be prepared taking into account traditional and current use by Teslin Tlingit of the Area.

Heritage

- Provisions recognizing and protecting the heritage and cultural significance of several specific routes and sites and the Nisutlin River Valley.

FIRST NATION OF NACHO NYAK DUN

Highlights of Final Agreement

Land Title

- Approximately 2408.69 square kilometres (930 square miles) of land with surface and sub-surface title; 2330.99 square kilometres (900 square miles) of land with surface title only but including rights to material such as sand and gravel; and 9.27 square kilometres (3.58 square miles) of land set aside or reserve.

Economy

- Participation in government employment, contracting and development projects in the traditional territory, including employment opportunities related to heritage sites, forestry and settlement land surveying.
- Option to acquire up to 25 per cent royalties held by Yukon government or its agencies or corporations in future non-renewable resource development and hydro projects in the traditional territory.
- Specific commercial wilderness rights in commercial freshwater fishing, adventure travel, and commercial freshwater sports fishing.
- Comprehensive economic plan which may include preferential employment and business initiatives for the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun.

Wildlife

- Subsistence harvesting rights of moose, woodland caribou, fish, birds, etc.

Land and Resource Management

- Agreement to enter into negotiations with government and the Selkirk First Nation to establish the McArthur Wildlife Sanctuary as a Special Management Area.
- Representation on the Peel River Advisory Committee.
- Establishment of a wetland habitat protection area at Horseshoe Slough.
- Participation in management of the Peel River Watershed.

Heritage

- Trading post on Nacho Nyak Dun settlement land at Lansing will become a historic site.
- Provisions to nominate the Bonnet Plume River as a Canadian heritage river.

VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION

Highlights of Final Agreement

Land Title

- Approximately 7744.06 square kilometres (2990 square miles) of land with surface and sub-surface title; 7.16 square kilometres (2.74 square miles) of land set aside or reserve.

Economy

- Participation in government employment, contracting and development projects in the traditional territory, including employment opportunities related to heritage sites, forestry and settlement land surveying.
- Option to acquire up to 25 per cent of royalties held by Yukon government, its agencies or corporations in future non-renewable resource development and hydro projects in the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation traditional territory.
- Exclusive rights to all new big game outfitting concessions within Vuntut Gwitchin traditional territory.
- All commercial salmon fishing licences and all commercial salmon sport licences in Porcupine River drainage basin for 15 years; preferential rights afterwards to any allocation of commercial and sport fishing salmon licences.
- Right of first refusal for commercial wilderness travel and commercial freshwater sports fishing in Vuntut Gwitchin settlement territory.
- At least 50 per cent of federal position with the Vuntut National Park to employ Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation members.
- First option on business licences within the Vuntut National Park.

Wildlife

- Specific moose harvest for subsistence needs.
- Basic needs allocation of salmon in the Porcupine River drainage basin.
- Rights to subsistence level and harvesting in the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation traditional territory.

Land and Resource Management

- Three special management areas to be established: the Vuntut National Park, Fishing Branch Ecological Reserve and the Old Crow Flats Special Management Area.
- Provisions concerning the preparation of a land use plan before an all-weather road is constructed into the community of Old Crow.

Heritage

- Provisions for the protection, ownership and management of heritage resources and designated historic sites.
- Joint ownership and management of Rampart House and Lapierre House historic sites.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS WITH
CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATION
FIRST NATION OF NACHO NYAK DUN
TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL
VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION

Background

In 1989, the federal government approved the negotiation of self-government agreements parallel to negotiations for the Yukon First Nations Final (Land Claim) Agreements.

The self-government agreements (SGAs) for the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation, the Teslin Tlingit Council, the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, and the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun will provide local autonomy in terms of decision-making affecting Indian people in the Yukon. The implementation of the SGAs through specific legislation means the four Yukon First Nations will no longer have to function under the Indian Act.

Each of the four First Nations will exercise law-making powers on settlement lands in the areas of land use and control, hunting, trapping and fishing, licensing and the regulation of businesses. A unique feature of the SGAs is that the four Yukon First Nations will also have the power to enact laws for its citizens in the Yukon, off settlement lands, in the areas of language, culture and spiritual beliefs; health care and services; social and welfare services; training programs; adoption, guardianship, custody, care and placement of children; education programs and services; estates; resolution of disputes outside the courts; and licenses to raise revenue.

Each First Nation's constitution will include a membership code; governing bodies and their powers, duties, composition, membership and procedures; a financial reporting system; and procedures to recognize and protect the rights and freedoms of its citizens. They will also allow the First Nations to challenge the validity of laws and quash invalid laws, and allow members to amend their constitutions.

The SGAs were negotiated within the existing Canadian constitutional framework, but will not prejudice the ability of the four Yukon First Nations to exercise or benefit from existing or future constitutional rights for Aboriginal peoples. As well, the SGAs will not affect any Aboriginal claim, right, title or interest; the identity of Yukon First Nations citizens as Aboriginal people of Canada; the ability of First Nations citizens to participate in and benefit from government programs for status Indians, non-status Indians or Native people; the rights of Yukon First Nations citizens as Canadian citizens or their entitlement to benefits, services, and protection afforded other Canadians.

Funding

Five-year Financial Transfer Agreements (FTAs) totalling more than \$28.5 million have been negotiated with the four Yukon First Nations. The FTAs will provide funding for programs and services, including operations and maintenance, and ongoing and one-time implementation funding. The following represents the level of funding to the four First Nations in constant dollars:

Champagne and Aishihik First Nation:

\$7.5 million over five years. The SGA was recommended on June 19, 1992 and ratified by the First Nation on September 15, 1992.

First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun:

\$6.4 million over five years. The SGA was recommended on June 12, 1992 and ratified by the First Nation on April 16, 1993.

Teslin Tlingit Council:

\$7.1 million over five years. The SGA was recommended on January 31, 1993 and ratified by the First Nation on April 20, 1993.

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation:

\$7.5 million over five years. The SGA was recommended May 31, 1992 and ratified by the First Nation on May 4, 1993.

Additional funding will be negotiated to support all 14 Yukon First Nations in future negotiations, as well as the YTG's participation in negotiations related to taxation and justice.

Program and Services

Initially, only the responsibility and funding for Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) programs and services presently administered by each of the four YFN bands will be transferred to each First Nation.

Legislative Powers

Federal laws of general application not inconsistent with settlement agreements will apply to the Yukon First Nations, their citizens and settlement land. There will be instances where it will be desirable that Yukon First Nations laws take precedence over federal law. The SGAs

require that Canada and each of the Yukon First Nations negotiate a separate agreement or an amendment to the SGA to identify areas in which Yukon First Nations laws will prevail over federal laws of general application. Territorial laws of general application will continue to apply to the Yukon First Nations, their citizens and settlement lands until they are replaced with Yukon First Nations laws.

Pending the outcome of a national Aboriginal Justice Policy review, the four Yukon First Nations have agreed not to exercise law-making powers with respect to the administration of justice prior to December 31, 1999 or unless an agreement is reached by the parties at an earlier date. In the interim, the Yukon courts will rule in respect of Yukon First Nations laws.

Taxation

The four Yukon First Nations will have the power to enact laws respecting property tax on their settlement lands and direct taxation of their citizens within the settlement lands. Because Canada is reviewing its policy on Indian taxation, the CYI leadership has agreed to wait three years before they exercise these powers.

Municipal Planning

The SGAs for the **Champagne and Aishihik First Nation**, the **Teslin Tlingit Council**, and the **First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun** set out compatible land use provisions under which the three First Nations, the territorial government and adjacent municipalities can establish a joint planning structure to avoid adverse impact on adjacent settlement or non-settlement lands.

It also allows the three First Nations to enter into agreements with other Yukon First Nations, municipalities or government relating to municipal or local government services, joint planning, zoning or other land use control, including the establishment of district governments.

In addition, the SGAs set out a consultation/negotiations mechanism for regional or district structures regarding the establishment of common administrative and planning structures for part or all of the traditional territory.

The three First Nations have also agreed, under their SGAs, to suspend certain legislative powers they might have on specified land selections within municipal boundaries. The SGAs also require the municipal government to consider land use by the First Nations in municipal planning.

The Yukon Territorial Government encouraged the negotiation of these provisions to ensure that the interests of both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations in the Yukon are taken into consideration.

Lands

Lands for the use of and benefit of the **Champagne and Aishihik First Nation** might be set aside as a result of an eventual specific claims settlement. If this happens, negotiations will begin to establish a regime for the ownership, management and administration of those lands.

A provision in the **Nacho Nyak Dun SGA** sets out a new land tenure regime for the McQuesten Reserve No. 3. Reserve lands will still be deemed "for the use and benefit of Indians", but title will be vested to the First Nation. The lands will also be subject to any legal existing third party interest.

A provision in the **Teslin Tlingit SGA** sets out a new land tenure regime for Reserves No. 13, 14 and 15. Reserve lands will still be deemed "for the use and benefit of Indians", but title will be vested to the First Nation. The lands will also be subject to any legal existing third party interest.

Third Party Interests

The SGAs provide for arrangements between Yukon First Nations and adjacent municipalities to make best efforts to ensure compatible land use, the establishment of local service agreements and regional or district structures to provide common administrative and planning structures for all residents in a given area of the Yukon.

Environmental Implications

The four SGAs do not expressly deal with an environmental assessment process because one was already negotiated in the Umbrella Final Agreement. The UFA includes a development assessment process. This process, which will come into effect through legislation within two years of settlement legislation, will be comprehensive and rigorous in analyzing the impact of proposed development. The UFA and Yukon First Nations Final Agreements contain provisions respecting wildlife habitat protection.

LITTLE SALMON/CARMACKS FIRST NATION JOINS OTHER FIRST NATIONS WITH FINAL AND SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS

WHITEHORSE (July 21, 1997) -- The Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation Final and Self-Government Agreements were signed today near Carmacks. The agreements were signed by Chief Eddie Skookum and the First Nation Council, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Jane Stewart, and Yukon Government Leader Piers McDonald.

The Little Salmon/Carmacks Final Agreement provides the First Nation with 2,598 square kilometres of settlement land and a \$20,897,598 (1997) financial settlement over the next 15 years.

"This is an historic day as another agreement with Yukon First Nations is signed," said Minister Stewart. "The Little Salmon/Carmacks agreements, along with the other First Nation final and self-government agreements already signed, are working agreements that give certainty to land ownership and resources and will facilitate economic growth and self sufficiency for the First Nation. These agreements are an example of the great things that can be achieved by working in partnership, in a spirit of cooperation and shared vision."

Chief Skookum said, "The whole Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation community has worked long and hard for these agreements. As citizens of Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation, we are looking forward to governing ourselves and managing our land for our future generations. Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation looks forward to continuing healthy relationships with the Yukon and Canada on a government-to-government basis."

Government Leader McDonald stressed the importance of building government-to-government relationships with First Nations.

"All First Nation final and self-government agreements mark the beginning of a new way for Yukon people to work together for a better today and a stronger future," McDonald said.

.../2

Yukon



Canada

“These agreements represent another milestone in Yukon history. All Yukon people want land claims and self-government agreements completed and implemented,” he added. “We all want agreements to be settled and certainty achieved for the good of our economy, our environment and the health of our communities.”

There are 14 First Nations in the Yukon. The Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation joins four other Yukon First Nations that have signed agreements (the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and the Teslin Tlingit Council). The remaining First Nations are at various stages of negotiations.

This news release is also available through the Internet at <http://www.inac.gc.ca>.

For further information:

Chief Eddie Skookum
Little Salmon/Carmacks
First Nation
(403) 863-5576

Lynne Boyer
Communications Services
DIAND
(819) 997-8404

Heather Finton
Cabinet Communications Advisor
Yukon Government
(403) 667-8417

LITTLE SALMON/CARMACKS FIRST NATION

Highlights of Final Agreement

Land Title

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation will have 2,598.46 square kilometres (1,003.27 square miles) of Settlement Land over which it retains Aboriginal title to the surface, subject to the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA). This figure includes 1,553.99 square kilometres (600 square miles) of land for which it will own the mines and minerals in fee simple.

Financial Settlement

The Little Salmon/Carmacks Final Agreement provides the First Nation with a \$20,897,598 (1997) financial settlement. This will amount to \$34.1 million when paid out over the next 15 years, less repayment of negotiating loans and elders payments.

Economy

- Participation in government employment, contracting and certain types of development projects in the traditional territory, including contracting and employment opportunities related to heritage sites, forestry and Settlement Land surveying.
- Option to purchase up to 25 per cent of the interest held by the Yukon Government or its agencies or corporations in future non-renewable resource development and hydro projects in the traditional territory.
- Economic development agreements with government to provide technical and financial planning for economic development purposes for residents in the Little Salmon/Carmacks traditional territory.
- Certain preferential allocations of any new licences or permits for commercial freshwater fishing, commercial freshwater sports fishing, commercial wilderness adventure travel and outfitting concessions in the traditional territory.

Wildlife

- Specific formulas set out the priority allocation for moose and woodland caribou harvest for subsistence needs in the event of necessary limitations.
- Primary consideration in allocation of freshwater fish resources in the traditional territory.
- Participation in allocation of salmon in the Yukon River drainage basin.
- Exclusive harvesting rights on Category A Settlement Land.
- Joint management of fish and wildlife resources is also provided for through the Fish and Wildlife Management Board and Renewable Resources Council.

Land and Resource Management

A Special Management Area will be established to guide the management and/or development of the Nordenskiöld Wetland Habitat Protection Area.

A management plan for Mandanna Lake will be jointly prepared by government and the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation to address and balance priorities of harvest between First Nation and other users.

Heritage

Processes to enable cooperation between the First Nation and Government in identifying and protecting Heritage sites are incorporated into the final agreement.

July 1997



SELKIRK FIRST NATION REACHES FINAL AGREEMENT

WHITEHORSE, YUKON (June 26, 1996) -Negotiations for another Yukon land claim agreement have concluded. Representatives of the Selkirk First Nation, and the federal and territorial governments have reached agreement on a land claim settlement. Negotiators will now seek instructions from their principals to initial the agreement and recommend it for ratification.

The agreement represents a major accomplishment in advancing Aboriginal government in Canada. It was reached on National Aboriginal Day (June 21), recently proclaimed by the Government of Canada to celebrate the contributions of Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples to Canadian society as First Peoples.

The final agreement provides for 4,739 square kilometres (1,830 square miles) of Settlement Land in the Pelly-MacMillan River areas. The First Nation will also receive financial compensation of approximately \$22.2 million (\$1997). A self-government agreement has yet to be reached, but should be completed shortly.

Patrick VanBibber is the Chief of the Selkirk First Nation. He is proud to have been part of the endeavour to restore control and self-sufficiency to his First Nation. The Selkirk First Nation has close to 500 members and is part of the Northern Tutchone Council.

"We have been looking forward to our own self-government, to running our own affairs, and to future relations with government to make a better way for our people," said Chief VanBibber.

The Honourable Ronald A. Irwin, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development introduced a second negotiator earlier this year to speed up negotiations with Yukon First Nations.

"Every agreement brings us closer to the vision of growing co-operation and understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples," said Minister Irwin. "This final agreement is a perfect example of the new partnership based on mutual respect and trust being forged between this government and Aboriginal peoples."

Government Leader John Ostashek praised all parties involved in the negotiations. "The Selkirk First Nation and the federal and Yukon negotiators are to be congratulated for a job well done. What these recent agreements with Selkirk, Little Salmon Carmacks and the Ta'an Kwachan clearly demonstrate is that Yukon First Nations utilizing the Umbrella Final Agreement and Self-Government Agreement models can conclude their settlements fairly and expeditiously. The process works and this has to be very encouraging news for the First Nations who have yet to sign".

Negotiators for the Selkirk First Nation and the federal and territorial governments are expected to meet in early July to finalize a self-government agreement.

This news release is also available through the Internet at <http://www.inac.gc.ca>.

Contact:

Chief Patrick VanBibber
Selkirk First Nation
(403) 537-3331

Tony Gonda
DIAND, Yukon
(403) 667-3163

Arthur Mitchell
Yukon Government
(403) 667-5370

SELKIRK FIRST NATION

Highlights of Final Agreement Specific Provisions

Land Title

Selkirk First Nation will have 4,746.47 square kilometres (1,836.79 square miles) of Settlement Land over which it retains Aboriginal title to the surface, subject to the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA). The figure includes 2,408.69 square kilometres (930 square miles) of land for which it will own the mines and minerals in fee simple.

Financial Settlement

The Selkirk Final Agreement provides the First Nation with a \$22,289,077 (1997) financial settlement. This will amount to \$36.4 million when paid out over the next 15 years, less repayment of negotiating loans and elders payments.

Economy

- Participation in government employment, contracting and certain types of development projects in the traditional territory, including contracting and employment opportunities related to heritage sites, forestry and Settlement Land surveying.
- Option to purchase up to 25 per cent of the interest held by the Yukon Government or its agencies or corporations in future non-renewable resource development and hydro projects in the traditional territory.
- Economic development agreements with government to provide technical and financial planning for economic development purposes for residents in the Selkirk traditional territory.
- Certain preferential allocations of any new licences or permits for commercial freshwater fishing, commercial freshwater sports fishing, commercial wilderness adventure travel and outfitting concessions in the traditional territory.
- Negotiated arrangements for employment and contracting benefits associated with any construction and operation of a hydro-electric project at Granite Canyon.

Wildlife

- Specific formulas set out the priority allocation for moose and woodland caribou harvest for subsistence needs in the event of necessary limitations.
- Primary consideration in allocation of freshwater fish resources in the traditional territory.
- Participation in allocation of salmon in the Yukon River drainage basin.
- Exclusive harvesting rights on Category A Settlement Land.
- Joint management of fish and wildlife resources is also provided for through the Fish and Wildlife Management Board and Renewable Resources Council.

Land and Resource Management

Special Management Areas will be established to guide the management, protection and/or development of Tatla Mun Lake, Lhutsaw Wetland Habitat Protection Area and Ddhaw Ghro Habitat Protection Area (previously called McArthur Wildlife Sanctuary).

Heritage

Fort Selkirk will become a designated historic site and will be jointly owned, planned and managed by the Selkirk First Nation and Yukon government.

July 1997

BACKGROUNDER

SELKIRK FIRST NATION SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND:

On May 29, 1993, the Government of Canada, the Yukon Territorial Government (Yukon) and the Council for Yukon Indians (CYI) signed the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA). The UFA establishes the basis for the negotiation of individual comprehensive land claim agreements with each of the 14 Yukon First Nations (YFNs) and is to be incorporated into each YFN land claim agreement. Chapter 24 of the UFA requires Canada and the Yukon to negotiate a self-government agreement (SGA) with each YFN.

Also, on May 29, 1993, the federal government and the Yukon signed individual land claim and SGAs with four of the 14 YFNs: Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, the Teslin Tlingit Council and the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation. Each of these YFNs negotiated its land claim and its SGAs concurrently.

These land claim and self-government agreements came into effect on February 14, 1995 by means of federal and territorial legislation.

The Selkirk First Nation Self-Government Agreement negotiations were concluded in summer 1996 and the agreement ratified by the First Nation on May 23rd, 1997. It will be signed on July 21, 1997.

HIGHLIGHTS

Recognize Yukon First Nation as a Legal Entity

On the effective date of the SGA, the Indian Act band ceases to exist and is succeeded by the First Nation, a legal entity having the capacity and powers of a natural person, including the ability to enter contracts, acquire and hold property, and form corporations. Monies held by Canada in trust for the band become part of the assets of the First Nation.

Application of the Indian Act

In most instances, the Indian Act does not apply to the First Nation, its citizens or to settlement land, except for the purpose of determining which citizens are Indians within the meaning of the Indian Act. However, there are some limited circumstances where certain provisions of the Indian Act continue to apply. For example, s.87 of the Indian Act, Property Exempt from Taxation, continues to apply to all YFNs and Yukon Indian people until February 15th, 1998.

Application of Federal and Territorial Laws

Federal laws of general application continue to apply to the First Nation, its citizens and settlement land. In the event of an inconsistency between a federal law and a First Nation law the federal law is paramount. Canada is currently negotiating with all YFNs to identify areas where First Nations' laws may prevail over federal laws.

Territorial laws of general application continue to apply to the First Nation, its citizens and settlement land, until replaced by a law of the First Nation that provides for that same matter. In that event, Yukon law will be inoperative to the extent it deals with the same matter as the First Nation law.

In order to avoid a conflict between Selkirk First Nation laws and Yukon laws of general application, the self-government legislation obliges YFNs to consult with Yukon before enacting a law they would reasonably foresee as impacting on a law of general application. Furthermore, Yukon may declare that a Yukon law of general application ceases to apply in whole or in part to a YFN where a YFN law makes a Yukon law partially inoperative and unreasonably or unduly difficult to administer.

Under enabling provisions of the SGA, Yukon has the power to act to relieve an emergency, notwithstanding that a First Nation law may apply to that emergency. A reciprocal provision allows the First Nation to respond to an emergency, notwithstanding that it is a Yukon law that applies to the emergency. The SGA also provides that in an emergency on settlement land that affects or may affect non-settlement land, the laws of general application apply.

Legislative Powers to Enact Laws

The Yukon First Nations Self-Government Act provides for First Nation law-making authority in four general areas:

1. internal management of the First Nation and administration of certain rights and benefits realized under its land claim agreement;
2. in relation to the First Nation's citizens throughout the Yukon, primarily with respect to the provision of programs and services;
3. laws of a local or private nature on settlement land in relation to a number of listed matters; and
4. taxation of interests in settlement land and other modes of direct taxation of First Nation citizens on settlement land. The First Nation taxation power does not limit the power of the federal or territorial government to levy tax or make taxation laws.

Register of Laws

The First Nation agrees to maintain a public register of laws. As well, Yukon First Nations will negotiate the establishment of a central public registry.

Constitution

The First Nation constitution provides for a number of matters, including:

- recognition and protection of the rights and freedoms of its citizens;
- challenging of the validity of First Nation laws;
- a system of reporting to ensure financial accountability to its citizens;
- establishment of the First Nation's governing bodies; and
- a citizenship code.

Programs and Services

Responsibility for DIAND programs and services previously administered by the band is transferred by Canada to the First Nation by means of a Programs and Services Transfer Agreement (PSTA).

Transfer of responsibility for other government programs and services may be negotiated in the future. The First Nation advises government each year of its priorities for program and service transfer negotiations.

Administration of Justice

The Selkirk First Nation has the capacity to enact laws respecting the administration of justice. The First Nation has agreed not to exercise this power before the fifth anniversary of the effective date of their SGA, unless the parties to the SGA agree on an earlier date.

The SGA provides for negotiations respecting the administration of justice. In the interim, the First Nation is limited in its power to establish penalties for violation of First Nation laws. Prosecution of an offence under First Nation law is treated as an offence under the territorial Summary Convictions Act. Matters are adjudicated by existing Yukon courts.

Taxation Powers

The Selkirk First Nation has the power to tax interests in settlement land. The First Nation has agreed not to exercise this taxation power before the third anniversary of the effective date of their SGA, unless otherwise agreed by the Yukon. This power does not limit government's power to tax interests on settlement land. However, Yukon will share tax room with the First Nation in the area of property taxation where the First Nation assumes responsibility for the delivery of local services.

The First Nation may also exercise law-making power over modes of direct taxation of its citizens within settlement land. This power does not limit Canada's or Yukon's power to tax. The Selkirk First Nation has agreed not to exercise this power before the third anniversary of the effective date of their SGA.

Canada and the First Nation will negotiate possible coordination of the First Nation tax laws within the existing tax system, as well as the extent to which the First Nation taxation power may apply to other persons or entities on settlement land. Yukon may also enter into taxation agreements with the First Nation.

In future, the First Nation may be entitled to other tax powers or exemptions that Canada provides to other Indian governments or entities owned by Indian governments.

Tax Exempt Status

The First Nation, or a subsidiary of the First Nation, is exempt from territorial and federal income tax when it is acting as a public body performing functions of government or providing it meets certain criteria.

Financial Transfer Agreement

The Selkirk First Nation has also entered into a Financial Transfer Agreement (FTA) with Canada. The FTA is effective for a five-year term and will be the primary funding instrument between Canada and the First Nation.

Funding provided to the First Nation under the FTA includes:

1. previous levels of band funding;
2. incremental funding provided toward the cost of operating self-government institutions;
3. an allocation of the direct and indirect costs to government of programs and services previously managed, administered or delivered by government; and
4. land claim implementation funding.

An objective of the SGA is to provide the First Nation with resources to enable it to provide public services

for which it is responsible at levels reasonably comparable to those offered elsewhere in the Yukon, at reasonably comparable levels of taxation.

Yukon First Nation Financial Contribution

The FTA incorporates the principle of First Nation fiscal responsibility. The FTA takes into consideration the revenue capacity of the First Nation and specifies an offset rate to apply against the First Nation's revenue-generating capacity.

Yukon Government Financial Contribution

At the conclusion of negotiations for the transfer of programs and services to the First Nation, Canada and the Yukon calculate the net savings to Yukon resulting from the transfer of government programs and services to the First Nation. Any net savings to the Yukon resulting from a decrease in Yukon's program or service responsibilities will be paid to Canada.

Financial Accountability

The First Nation agrees to maintain and publish its accounts in a manner consistent with the standards generally accepted for governments in Canada.

Compatible Land Use

The SGA requires the First Nation, the Yukon government and municipalities to promote compatible land uses of specified settlement lands and adjacent non-settlement lands which are in or near municipalities. The purpose of these provisions is to avoid land uses which have significant adverse impact on the peaceful use and enjoyment of neighbouring properties. Traditional uses are protected.

Local and Municipal Services

The First Nation may negotiate agreements with another YFN, municipality or government for the provision of local or municipal type services. The cost of such services will be based on rates similar to those charged to other property owners in the community.

Section 35 and Aboriginal Rights

YFN SGAs are currently not afforded constitutional protection under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. However, Yukon First Nations, Canada and the Yukon are negotiating an agreement which will, among other things, recognize the inherent right of self-government and provide for constitutional protection of aspects of the SGAs.

July 1997



[\[News\]](#) [\[Français\]](#)

BACKGROUND

BILL C-55

The Yukon Surface Rights Board Act

The Yukon Surface Rights Board Act is a legislative obligation under the Yukon First Nations Final Land Claims Settlement Agreements. Under these Agreements, the federal government is committed to creating legislation for a Yukon Surface Rights Board. The Yukon First Nations Land Claims Settlement Act and the Yukon First Nations Self-Government Act received Royal Assent on July 6, 1994. These bills did not come into force until the passing of the Yukon Surface Rights Board Act (received Royal Assent on December 15, 1994).

The Yukon Surface Rights Board Act fulfils the legal requirements of the federal government under the Final Agreements. The YSRB Act establishes a process to resolve disputes between parties concerning access to surface and sub-surface rights. It also sets up the board to put the regime into effect.

Under the Act, a person may apply to the Board for the arbitration of a matter only after that person has first attempted to negotiate an agreement with the other party. The Board will have jurisdiction over such matters as:

- Access and use disputes between surface rights holders or between those holding surface rights and those holding sub-surface rights
- the establishment of terms and conditions relating to the exercise of a right of access
- the awarding of compensation for the right of access and damage resulting from that access
- the awarding of an interim access order
- awarding of compensation for the expropriation of settlement land, and
- the periodic review of an order where there has been a material change since the Board made the original order.

An order of the Board will be final and binding, and is subject to review only on specified grounds. An order of the Board may be filed with the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory and enforced in the same manner as an order of that court.

Umbrella Final Agreement UFA
Boards, Councils, Committees & Commissions
 September 17, 1997

Yukon Enrollment Commission, #11 Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3S4 (403) 667-3562 Fax 668-6577

Under UFA Chapter 3, the Enrollment Commission is set up to determine eligibility for personal enrollment under a Yukon First Nation Final Agreement. It Hears and decide any appeal respecting enrollment, and provide for the enforcement of any order or decision. The Enrollment Commission is an independent body operating at arm's length from the Parties to the Settlement Agreements.

Commissioners	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Mary Jane Jim	(Jan. 1999)	FN
Duncan Sinclair	(Jan. 1999)	FED/YTG
Irene Adamson	(Dec. 1999)	FN
Adeline Webber, Alternate (MJ)	(Jan. 1999)	
Dan Van Bibber, Alternate (IA)	(Dec. 1999)	

Training Policy Committee, Box 1, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2B0 (403) 668-7812 Fax 668-6577

Under UFA Chapter 28, the Committee's mandate is to deal with training matters resulting from the land claim negotiations. This Committee is to ensure Yukon First Nations people obtain training to implement the Land Claim Agreements; and to fully participate in economic opportunities arising from implementation. The Committee works with First Nations who require assistance in developing training plans. First Nations can request to receive minutes of meetings on a regular basis.

Board Members	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Nancy Hager, Chair	Jan. 12, 1995 (1998)	FN
Shirley Frost	Jan. 12, 1995 (1997)	FN
<i>Vacant</i>	Jan. 12, 1995 (1996)	FN
Adeline Webber	Feb. 21, 1995 (On-going)	FED
Stan Boychuck	June 30, 1997 (On-going)	YTG

Yukon Heritage Resources Board, Box 4750, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 4N6 (403) 668-7150 Fax 667-7006

Under UFA Chapter 13.5.1, the Board's role is to make recommendations and provide advice to Government and First Nation's concerning the management of Yukon's heritage resources. Its focus is mainly on moveable heritage resources and sites. In doing so, the Board considers ways to use and preserve Yukon First Nation's Languages and traditional knowledge of Yukon First Nation Elders.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Florence Whyard, Chair	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	YTG
Chief Pat Van Bibber, V. Chair	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	FN
Helen Couch	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	YTG
Denise Fras	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	YTG
Joe Johnson	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	FN
Paul Lackowicz	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	YTG
Harry Morris	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	FN
Roy Moses	Jan. 30, 1995 (1998)	FN
<i>Vacant</i>		FN
<i>Vacant</i>		YTG
Jeff Hunston, Ex Officio		YTG Heritage Branch

Yukon Geographical Place Names Board, PO. Box 31164, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5P7

Tel. (403) 393-3982 Fax (403) 667-7007

Under Chapter 13.11, the Board's mandate is to consider and recommend to the Yukon Minister responsible for Heritage, the naming and re-naming of places or features located within the Yukon.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Diane Chisholm, Chair	Jan. 30, 1995 (Jan. 1998)	YTG
Percy Henry	Jan. 30, 1995 (Jan. 1998)	FN
John Ritter	Jan. 30, 1995 (Jan. 1998)	YTG
Daniel Tlen	Jan. 30, 1995 (Jan. 1998)	FN
Margaret Workman	Jan. 30, 1995 (Jan. 1998)	FN
Patrick Moore	Sept. 1997 (Jan. 1998)	YTG

Yukon Land Use Planning Council, Box 4221, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3T3 (403) 667-7397 Fax 633-2298

Under UFA Chapter 11, the Council is to undertake development of a strategic planning exercise; and develop an action plan and identify goals for meeting its mandate. A "Draft Option Paper" will provide recommendations on planning boundaries, identify priorities for planning regions and produce an overall policy framework for the planning process.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Patrick James, Chair	Jan. 12, 1995 (1998)	CYFN
Kim Hudson	Jan. 9, 1995 (1998)	YTG
<i>Vacant</i>	Jan. 1995 (1998)	FED

Yukon Territory Water Board, 106-200 Range Road, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 3V1 (403) 667-3980 Fax 668-3628

Under UFA Chapter 14, the Water Board's powers are quasi-judicial and cover a range of discretionary and non-discretionary authorities. These include: issuance or amending a licence for water use and waste disposal; holding licence application hearings; regulating water use; prescribing information requirements; assigning a licence; canceling a licence; and advising the Minister of various water planning matters.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Ron W. Johnson, Chair	Dec. 19, 1995 (1998)	YTG
Dale Eftoda, Vice Chair	Aug. 6, 1995 (1998)	FED
Stephen Mills	Mar. 6, 1995 (1998)	FN
Norma Kassi	Aug. 10, 1996 (1998)	FN
<i>Vacant</i>		FN
<i>Vacant</i>	Aug. 10, 1995 (1997)	YTG
Bruce Sova	Mar. 6, 1995 (1997)	YTG
John Bailey	June 19, 1995 (1999)	FED
Kim Hudson	Oct. 17, 1996	FED

Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Box 5954, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5L7 (403) 667-3754 Fax 667-2099

Under UFA Chapter 16.7.0, this Board was established in law by the Yukon Land Claims Final Agreement in 1995. It is made up of 12 people—six chosen by Yukon First Nations and six by the Government of Yukon. Members are also Trustees of the "Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust" as set out in UFA Chapter 27.3.1. The Board is the "primary instrument of Fish and Wildlife Management in the Yukon" and works with Renewable Resources Councils in each Traditional Territory recognized by the Agreements, and with the Yukon and First Nation Governments.

The Board influences management for wildlife through public education and by making well researched recommendations to either the Yukon or Federal Minister, and to Yukon First Nation Governments.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Mike Smith, Chair	May 23, 1996 (Dec. 1997)	FN
Gerald Couture, Vice Chair	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1999)	YTG
J. Roger Alfred	Dec. 20, 1996 (Dec. 1998)	FN
Bruce Charlie	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1998)	FN
James Close	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1998)	YTG
David Dickson	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1997)	FN
Shirley Ford	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1999)	YTG
Art Johns	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1999)	FN
Charles R. Stricker	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1998)	YTG
Georgina Sydney	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1999)	FN
Douglas Urquhart	Dec. 20, 1994 (Dec. 1997)	YTG
Theresa Madigan	Apr. 10, 1997 (Dec. 1997)	YTG

Salmon Sub-Committee, 100-200 Range Road, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3V1 (403) 393-6719 Fax 393-6738

Under UFA Chapter 16, this Committee monitors and advises Yukon and Federal governments on salmon management in the Yukon. Particularly, the Sub-Committee shall undertake activities as set out in 16.7.17, 16.8.0, and 16.10.0.

The Sub-Committee holds regular semi-annual meetings, in-season and basin meetings pertinent to the Yukon River drainage basin, Alsek River drainage basin, and the Porcupine River drainage basin.

Board Members	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Steve Taylor, Chair Gerald Couture, Vice Chair Chuck Hume Llewellyn Johnson Joni MacKinnon Stanley Njootli William Josie Carl Sydney Francis Wellar, Elder		

Dispute Resolution Board, 26 Tahkani Ave. Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3N4 (403) 667-7390

Under UFA Chapter 26, the mandate of this Board is to provide a comprehensive dispute resolution process to resolve disputes which arise out of the interpretation, administration or implementation of settlement agreements or settlement legislation. In particular, it is to facilitate the out-of-court resolution of disputes in a non-adversarial and informal atmosphere.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Ione Christensen, Chair Victor Mitander Tim McTierman		FED CYFN YTG

Yukon Surface Rights Board, Box 31201 Whitehorse YT, Y1A 5P7 (867) 667-7695 Fax 668-5892

Under UFA Chapter 8, the Surface Rights Board is a quasi-judicial mechanism to resolve disputes between surface and sub-surface interests, only after the Parties have gone through negotiations of an agreement. Failing agreement between Parties, the Surface Rights Board establishes the terms and conditions of a right to access (if any) to Settlement Land, determines compensation allowed for access, as well as compensation for land expropriated.

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Stephen Mills, Chair Emile Stehelin Joel Jacobs Gerald Isaac Bruce Underhill	(Mar. 29, 1999) (June 2, 1998) (June 2, 1998) (June 2, 1998) (June 2, 1998)	FED CYFN CYFN FED

Yukon Development Assessment Board, 11 Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5S4 (403) 667-7631 Fax 668-6377

This Board is not in place. UFA Chapter 12 sets out the foundation for the Development Assessment Legislation, which will establish a new environmental and socio-economic assessment process for all lands in the Yukon, with guaranteed participation from Yukon First Nation people.

The Core Group includes representatives from CYFN, YTG and DIAND. These people are currently involved in negotiating the content of the Development Assessment Legislation, which is to be completed by December 19, 1997. Also, there is a CYFN DAP Caucus comprised of representatives from each of the 14 First Nations. These Caucus members are given status reports on negotiations and occasionally meet to provide direction to the CYFN negotiators.

Core Group	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Stephen Mills Victor Mitander John Bailey Bill Klassen		CYFN CYFN DIAND YTG

Regional Renewable Resource Councils

Under UFA Chapter 16.6, after a First Nation Final Settlement Agreement, a Renewable Resources Council shall be established as a primary instrument for local renewable resource management in each Yukon First Nation's Traditional Territory.

Unless otherwise agreed to in a First Nation Final Agreement

- each Council shall be comprised of six members consisting of three nominees of the Yukon First Nation and three nominees of the Minister (each Council will determine its own procedures for selecting a Chair)

- initial appointments terms will differ--one third shall be made for three years, one third for four years, and one third for five years; thereafter all appointments to a Council shall be for a five year term.

Alsek Renewable Resources Council, Box 2077, Haines Jct., YT Y0B 1L0 (403) 634-2524 Fax 634-2527

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Mike Crawshaw, Chair	(Mar. 31, 1998)	YTG
Mickey Beame	(Mar. 31, 1998)	CAFN
Daryl Duff	(Mar. 31, 2000)	YTG
Thomas Eckervogt	(Mar. 31, 1999)	YTG
Harry Smith	(Mar. 31, 1999)	CAFN
Alex Van Bibber	(Mar. 31, 2000)	CAFN

Mayo District Renewable Resources Council, Box 249, Mayo, YT Y0B 1M0 (403) 996-2721

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Dan McDiarmid, Co-Chair		
Frank Patterson, Co-Chair		
Billy Germaine		
Ralph Mease		
J. D. Randolph		
Jack Smith		
Joseph Kaye, Alternate		First Nations
Bernard Menelon		Government

Teslin Renewable Resources Council, Box 136, Teslin, YT Y0B 1B0 Tel (403) 390-2323 Fax

Board Member	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Denny Denuson, Chair		
Robert Lee Jackson		
Carolyn Allen		
Evelyn Hassard		
Harry Morris		
Doug Smarch Sr.		
Sandy Smarch		
Watson Smarch		
Orville Smith		
Frank Thomas		

Vuntut Gwitchin Renewable Resources Council, Box 80, Old Crow YT Y0B 1N0 Tel/Fax(403) 996-3034

Board Members	Appointment Date (Term)	Representation
Roy Moses, Chair		
Alice Frost		
Harvey Kassi		
Peter Abel		
Joseph Kaye, Jr		
Stanley Njoodi		
Vickie Josie		
Robert Netro, Alternate		

